

CONNECTICUT SECRETARY OF THE STATE
Document Review
30 Trinity Street
P.O. Box 150470
Hartford, CT 06115-0470

FILING #0004709160 PG 1 OF 2
VOL B-01715 PAGE 1610
FILED 08/20/2012 05:50 PM
CONNECTICUT SECRETARY OF THE STATE

1. Name of Corporation:	NOVA GROUP, INC.	
2. Business ID:	0886999	
3. Report due in the month of:	January, 2008	
4. This Corporation is:	FOREIGN/STOCK	
Fee is:	\$435.00	
Corporate Name:	NOVA GROUP, INC.	
Mailing Address:	100 GRIST MILL ROAD SIMSBURY,CT 06070	•
Changes:		
5: Principal Office Address (In CT Only):	100 GRIST MILL ROAD SIMSBURY,CT 08070	
Changes:		
$\mathbf{z}_{i,j}$ and $\mathbf{z}_{i,j}$		<del></del>
6. Executive Office Address (Foreign Corps Only):		
Changes:		
7. Principal Office in State of Formation (Foreign Corp. Only):	ps	
Changes:		
kiri, Wirkin in i		
8. Attached hereto are the officers and directors of the	e corporation with their business and residence addresses.	
9. Date:	08/28/2012	
10. Email Address;	mwestcott@usbgi.com	
11. I hereby certify and state, under penatties of false electronically sign this report.	statement, that all of the information set forth on this annual report is true. I h	nereby
Print Capacity:	WAYNE BURSEY	
Signature:	WAYNE BURSEY	

FILING # 0004709160 PG 2 OF 2

Report Officers/Directors Business ID: 0866999

			VOL B-01715 PAGE 1811 FILED 08/29/2012 05:50 PM CONNECTICUT SECRETARY OF THE S	
1. Full Legal Name:		WAYNE BURSEY	COMMUNICATION SECURITIES OF \$110 C	1010
Title(s):		PRESIDENT		
Residence Addr:		100 GRIST MILL RD		
		SIMSBURY,CT 08070		
Business Addr:		100 GRIST MILL RD SIMSBURY,CT 06070		
Res Changes:				
-				
Bus Changes;				
• •				
2. Full Legal Name;		MOLLY CARPENTER		
Tide(s):		TREASURER		
Residence Addr:	-	100 GRIST MILL RD		
		SIMSBURY,CT 08070		
: Business Addr.		100 GRIST MILL RD		
		SIMSBURY,CT 06070		
Res Changes:				
Bus Changes:				
Dus Clidiges.				
). Full Legal Name:		AMANDA ROSSI		
Title(s):		SECRETARY		•
Residence Addr:	•	100 GRIST MILL RD SIMSBURY,CT 06070		
Business Addr:		100 GRIST MILL RD SIMSBURY,CT 06070		
Res Changes;				
		<del></del>		
40 m				
Bus Changes:				

# State of Delaware Annual Franchise Tax Report

NOVA GROUP, INC.				2008
FILE NUMBER INCORPORATION DATE REME 3563933 2002/08/30 2	WAL/REVOCATION DATE			,
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS 100 Grist Mill Road			860/408-7	PHONE NUMBER 000 ext: 254
Simsbury CT 06070 Uni	ted States			AGENT NUMBER
REGISTERED AGENT THE CORPORATION TRUST	COMPANY			9000010
CORPORATION TRUST CEN 1209 ORANGE STREET	ITER			
WILMINGTON	DE 19801			
AUTHORIZED STOCK BEGIN DATE END DATE	DESIGNATION/ STOCK CLASS	NG. OF SHARES	PAR VALUE/ SHARE	
2002/08/30	COMMON	1,500		
	``			
		•		
OFFICER NAME Daniel E. Carpenter	STREET/	CITY/STATE/ZIP		TITLE
<del>-</del>				Chairman
100 Grist Mill Road				CHATTHAN
Simsbury CT 06070 Uni	STREET/	CITY/STATE/ZIP		
Corporation currently	y has no Director	rs		
	A Section 1			
Total number of direct	ctors:0			
NOTICE: Pursuant to 8 Del. C.		rector of a corporation rea	nired to make an annual	franchise tax report
to the Secretary of State shall kno authorized by cofficer, director of	nvinaly make any false stati	ement in the report, such	officer or director shall be	quilty of perjury.
W VILL OCCIONAL I VI CHARE SIMME VILL	₹ INCORPORATOR)	,,	DATE	TITLE T
AUTHORIZED BY (OFFICER, DIRECTOR OF Daniel E. Carpenter				
Daniel E. Carpenter				Chairman
AUTHORIZED BY TOFFICER, DIRECTOR OF Daniel E. Carpenter  100 Grist Mill Road			2010-02-25	Chairman
Daniel E. Carpenter			2010-02-25	Chairman

# State of Delaware Annual Franchise Tax Report

NOVA GROUP, INC.				7ax va 201
FILE HUNDER INCORPORATION DATE RENEW 3563933 2002/08/30	AL/REVOCATION BATE			
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS 100 Grist Mill Rd				PHONE NUMBER 860/408-700
200 02000 10222 5.0				330, 130 100
Simsbury CT 06070 Unit	ted States			
REGISTERED AGENT THE CORPORATION TRUST	COMPANY			AGENT NUMBE 900001
CORPORATION TRUST CENT 1209 ORANGE STREET	TER			
WILMINGTON	DE 19801		. <b>.</b>	
AUTHORIZED STOCK BEGIN DATE END DATE	DESIGNATION/ STOCK CLASS	NO. OF SHARES	PAR VALUE/ S	HARE
2002/08/30	COMMON	1,500		
OFFICER NAME	STREET	T/CITY/STATE/ZIP		TITLE
Daniel E. Carpenter				
100 Grist Mill Rd				Chairman
Simsbury CT 06070 Unit	STREET	I/CITY/STATE/ZIP	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
Corporation currently	has no Directo	ors		
e de la companya de				
			•	
			7	
Total number of direct				
NOTICE: Pursuant to 8 Del C. 50 to the Secretary of State shall known authorized by tofficer, director or in Daniel E. Carpenter	)2(b), If any officer or d ingly make any false stal исойроватов;	irector of a corporation n tement in the report, sucl	equired to make an h officer or director	annual franchise tax report shall be guilty of perjury.
100 Grist Mill Rd			2011-02-	Chairman 28
Simsbury CT 06070 Unit	od Ctator			
SIMSDUEV OF UBU/U UNIT	.eu Dlaies			

SOUTHERN DISTRICT	OF NEW YORK	X		
UNIVERSITAS EDUCAT		:		
	Petitioner,	:	11 Civ. 1590 (LTS)(HBE	,)
-against-		:		
·		:		
NOVA GROUP, INC.,	Respondent.	:		
		: X		
NOVA GROUP, INC.,		:		
	Petitioner,	:	11 Civ. 8726 (LTS) (HBE	')
-against-		:	CERTIFICATION OF FACTS CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND PROPOSED REMEDY	
UNIVERSITAS EDUCAT	ION, LLC,			
	Respondent.	: : X		

PITMAN, United States Magistrate Judge:

TO THE HONORABLE LAURA TAYLOR SWAIN, United States District Judge,

#### I. Introduction

By notice of motion dated November 28, 2012 (Docket Item 181 in 11 Civ. 1590 and Docket Item 122 in 11 Civ. 8726<sup>1</sup>), Universitas Education, LLC ("Universitas") seeks an order holding Nova Group, Inc. ("Nova Group"), and non-parties Daniel E. Carpenter, Wayne H. Bursey, Jack E. Robinson, Molly Carpenter and Amanda Rossi in civil contempt for failing to comply with my Order dated August 17, 2012.

In the absence of the parties' consent to a magistrate judge's exercising complete jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(c), a magistrate judge can neither grant nor deny a motion for contempt. As explained by the Honorable John G. Koeltl, United States District Judge, a magistrate judge's role with respect to such a motion is limited by 28 U.S.C. § 636(e)(6) to certifying or declining to certify the facts constituting contempt:

[28 U.S.C. § 636(e)(6)] provides that a United States Magistrate Judge shall, in a case other than one over which the magistrate judge presides with the consent of the parties under 28 U.S.C. § 636(c) or a misdemeanor case proceeding under 18 U.S.C. § 3401, certify facts constituting civil contempt to the district judge. See 28 U.S.C. § 636(e)(6)(A), (e)(6)(B)(iii). The magistrate judge may also issue an order requiring the

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$ Unless otherwise stated, all subsequent references will be to the docket in 11 Civ. 1590.

individual found to have committed the acts in question to show cause before the district court why the individual should not be adjudged in contempt of court. See 28 U.S.C.  $\S$  636(e)(6).

Where the magistrate judge has certified facts constituting contempt, the district court must make an independent determination of the facts certified and consider any additional evidence. See 28 U.S.C. \$ 636(e)(6). The determination of whether the conduct constitutes contempt and, if so, what sanctions are appropriate are left to discretion of the district court. 28 U.S.C. \$ 636(e)(6)(B).

JSC Foreign Econ. Ass'n Technostroyexport v. Int'l Dev. & Trade
Servs., Inc., 03 Civ. 5562 (JGK) (AJP), 2006 WL 1148110 at \*1

(S.D.N.Y. Apr. 28, 2006); see also Hunter TBA v. Triple V Sales,
250 F.R.D. 116, 118 (E.D.N.Y. 2008); Jones v. J.C. Penney's Dep't
Stores, Inc., 228 F.R.D. 190, 198 (W.D.N.Y. 2005).

Accordingly, I certify the following facts and recommend that Nova Group and Messrs. Bursey, Carpenter and Robinson be held in civil contempt.

#### II. Certified Facts

#### A. Background

 Confirmation of the Arbitration Award

These actions arise out of an arbitration concerning the disposition of the proceeds of two life insurance policies.

The facts underlying the arbitration are set forth fully in the Memorandum Order of Honorable Laura Taylor Swain, United States District Judge, dated June 5, 2012. <u>Universitas Educ., LLC v. Nova Grp., Inc.</u>, 11 Civ. 1590 (LTS) (HBP), 2012 WL 2045942 (S.D.N.Y. June 5, 2012). I assume familiarity with that decision.

Nova Group is the trustee, sponsor and fiduciary of Charter Oak Trust Welfare Benefit Plan ("Charter Oak Trust").

Two life insurance policies on Sash A. Spencer's life -- totaling approximately \$30 million -- were placed in Charter Oak Trust.

Universitas is the sole, irrevocable beneficiary of the proceeds in Charter Oak Trust. After Mr. Spencer's death in 2009, the life insurance carrier paid out the insurance proceeds to Charter Oak Trust. Universitas then commenced an arbitration against Nova Group to determine its entitlement to the insurance proceeds. On January 24, 2011, the arbitrator rendered an award in favor of Universitas.

On June 5, 2012, Judge Swain confirmed the arbitration award in favor of Universitas. <u>Universitas Educ., LLC v. Nova</u>

<u>Grp., Inc., supra, 2012 WL 2045942</u>. Judgment against Nova Group was entered in the amount of \$30,181,880.30 on June 7, 2012

(Docket Item 41).

#### 2. August 17, 2012 Order

In an effort to locate the insurance proceeds at issue here, Universitas served an information subpoena and request for documents on Nova Group and Charter Oak Trust (Declaration of Paula K. Colbath, Esq. in Support of Judgment Creditor Universitas Education, LLC's Motion in Support of Civil Contempt (Docket Item 183) ("Colbath Decl.") Exs. B, C). Nova Group objected to Universitas' documents requests and filed a motion to quash the information subpoena (Docket Item 80).

After a discovery conference held on August 17, 2012, I overruled Nova Group's objections to Universitas' discovery requests and denied Nova Group's motion to quash the information subpoena (Docket Item 140). I memorialized my rulings in an Order dated August 17, 2012, which directed, in pertinent part, that:

- 1. Respondent's objections to petitioner's discovery requests (annexed to petitioner's August 10, 2012 letter) are overruled. Respondent shall answer the discovery requests no later than August 31, 2012.
- 2. . . . With respect to petitioner's subpoena to Nova Group, Inc., the requested documents are to be produced no later than August 31, 2012.

(Colbath Decl. Ex. A ("August 17 Order")).

One day before Nova Group's compliance with my August 17 Order was due, Nova Group's counsel<sup>2</sup> wrote to Universitas' counsel that "it appears [that] our client will not be providing responses or documents on August 31, 2012" (Colbath Decl. Ex. E). This letter further explained:

Despite our best effort, we have been advised that Wayne Bursey ("Mr. Bursey") has resigned his duties as Trustee for medical reasons. We have further been advised that Mr. Bursey was the only individual who had the capacity to search for responsive documentation or sign a verification on behalf of Nova or the Charter Oak Trust. Despite our efforts to press the client to provide another person who has the authority and capacity to effectuate a response, the client has taken the recalcitrant position that there is no one else.

(Colbath Decl. Ex. E).

At a second discovery conference held on September 19, 2012, I noted that "there has not been compliance with my August 17 order. And it's not clear to me why there is no one at the entity who can produce the documents" and that "I haven't heard any explanation under oath from someone at the defendant as to why the subpoena can't be complied with" (Colbath Decl. Ex. P at 21:8-10, 12-14). Accordingly, I granted Universitas' application for leave to file a motion for contempt. Universitas filed this

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>This letter was authored by Joseph Pastore, Esq. Mr. Pastore has since withdrawn from this action and was replaced by Mr. Robinson (Docket Item 157). Mr. Robinson has also sought to withdraw as counsel of record (Docket Item 226). That motion remains pending.

motion on November 28, 2012 seeking an order finding Nova Group,
Daniel E. Carpenter, Wayne H. Bursey, Jack E. Robinson, Molly
Carpenter and Amanda Rossi in civil contempt. Although the
individuals filed oppositions to this motion, Nova Group failed
to file an opposition or to otherwise respond.

Despite Nova Group's complete failure to file any response, I have independently reviewed the record to ascertain the facts that are pertinent to the resolution of the instant application with respect to Nova Group. It now appears that Nova Group has responded to Universitas' document requests and information subpoena. In support of its objections to my Report & Recommendation dated May 21, 2013, Nova Group submitted a declaration from its counsel, Ira Kleiman, dated June 4, 2013 (Declaration of Ira Kleiman, Esq., in Support of Objections to Magistrate Judge's Report & Recommendation (Docket Item 258) ("Kleiman Decl.")).3 In this declaration, Mr. Kleiman stated that his firm, Brief Carman & Kleiman, was retained by Nova Group in January 2013 "to assist Nova in complying with certain document requests served by the Universitas Education, LLC" (Kleiman Decl.  $\P$  3). He further stated that Nova Group has since produced documents responsive to Universitas' discovery requests and has

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Mr. Kleiman entered a notice of appearance on behalf of Nova Group on January 25, 2013 (Docket Item 210).

responded to Universitas' information subpoena (Kleiman Decl. ¶¶ 3, 5, Ex. B). Nevertheless it is clear that these responses were submitted well after the August 31, 2012 deadline set forth in my August 17 Order. Mr. Kleiman offers no explanation for Nova Group's failure to comply with the deadline set in my August 17 Order.

#### 3. The Nova Group Individuals

In view of the fact that Universitas seeks to hold various individuals associated with Nova Group in contempt, a relatively detailed description of their roles at Nova Group is required. Nova Group is a small company (see Colbath Decl. Ex. P at 5:17-18), and Wayne H. Bursey, Daniel E. Carpenter, Jack E. Robinson, Molly Carpenter and Amanda Rossi (collectively, the "Nova Group Individuals") were each employed by Nova Group in varying roles and capacities.

Mr. Bursey was the president of Nova Group and the trustee and principal plan sponsor of Charter Oak Trust. During the underlying arbitration, in a sworn declaration dated November 12, 2010, Mr. Bursey stated that "As President of Nova [Group], I am familiar with [Charter Oak Trust's] assets and state that [Charter Oak Trust's] assets exceed \$35 million" (Colbath Decl. Ex. X). In a TD Bank statement for an account maintained in the

name of Charter Oak Trust for the period January 21, 2010 to February 20, 2010, Mr. Bursey is listed as "Trustee" (Colbath Decl. Ex. T). Mr. Bursey is also named as "Administrative Trustee and "Principal Plan Sponsor" for Charter Oak Trust in a PNC Custody Agreement dated January 9, 2007 (Colbath Decl. Ex. U at COT PNC000021). However, in a letter dated August 30, 2012, Nova Group's former counsel wrote that Mr. Bursey had resigned as trustee for health reasons. Despite this representation, Nova Group's August 28, 2012 filing with the Connecticut Secretary of State continued to list Mr. Bursey as "President" (Colbath Decl. Ex. S). During the September 19, 2012 conference at which my August 17 Order was discussed, I directed that the deposition of Mr. Bursey be conducted no later than October 19, 2012 (Docket Item  $156 \ \P \ 3)$ . At this deposition, Mr. Bursey testified that it would "surprise" him to see documents filed with the Connecticut Secretary of State identifying him as an officer and director of a company (Declaration of Stephen v. Manning, Esq. in Support of Wayne H. Bursey's Opposition to Motion for Civil Contempt (Docket Item 202) ("Manning Decl.") Ex. A at 113:10-14). Nonetheless, during the September 19, 2012 discovery conference, Mr. Robinson, who was appearing as Nova Group's counsel of record, stated that Mr. Bursey was "still informally an advisor" to Nova Group and that Mr. Bursey was one of the two people, in addition to Mr.

Carpenter, who made up Nova Group (Colbath Decl. Ex. P at 5:14-15, 17-19). At his deposition, Mr. Bursey asserted his Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination when questioned about his and Nova Group's actions to comply with my August 17 Order (Manning Decl. Ex. A at 35:15-36:15; 289:2-24). Finally, Mr. Bursey is also a target of a pending grand jury investigation in the District of Connecticut (Colbath Decl. Ex. V; Manning Decl. Ex. A at 320:13-321:5).

In at least 2011, Daniel Carpenter was the chairman of Nova Group (Colbath Decl. Ex. N, State of Delaware Annual Franchise Tax Report for Nova Group, dated February 28, 2011, listing Daniel E. Carpenter as Chairman). At the September 19, 2012 discovery conference, Mr. Robinson stated that Mr. Carpenter was "the founder" of Nova Group and had designed the Charter Oak Trust (Colbath Decl. Ex. P at 3:16-17). He further stated that Mr. Carpenter "is still involved [with Nova Group] in terms of oversight, providing advice" and that "Mr. Carpenter has input as to what happens at Nova Group even though he may not be a formal officer or formal director" (Colbath Decl. Ex. P at 3:21-22, 5:2-4). Mr. Robinson also stated that Mr. Carpenter, along with Mr. Bursey, was one of the two people who constituted Nova Group (Colbath Decl. Ex. P at 5:17-19). Finally, Mr. Carpenter is also

a target of the grand jury investigation pending in the District of Connecticut (Colbath Decl. Ex. V).

Mr. Robinson was formerly counsel of record for Nova Group in this action, but has since sought to withdraw (Docket Item 226). In addition to this present representation, Mr. Robinson is also closely associated with Nova Group. For some period of time, Mr. Robinson was General Counsel for Nova Group. In filings Nova Group submitted in these actions, Nova Group referred to Mr. Robinson as its general counsel (Docket Item 79 at 1, 3), but at the September 19, 2012 conference, Mr. Robinson stated that he had not been Nova Group's general counsel for over two years (Colbath Decl. Ex. O at 3:7-10). Mr. Robinson's deposition is consistent with the foregoing recitation (Declaration of Seth L. Marcus, Esq. in Support of Jack E. Robinson's Opposition to Motion for Contempt, dated Dec. 20, 2012 (Docket Item 195) ("Marcus Decl.") Ex. A at 252:13-23). In addition, Mr. Robinson signed an appointment agreement dated February 12, 2007 on behalf of Nova Group as "Asst. Secretary" (Colbath Decl. Ex. AA at COT WSF000224). Mr. Robinson has also been identified as a target in the same grand jury investigation that has targeted Messrs. Bursey and Carpenter (Colbath Decl. Ex. V). Finally, in a sworn declaration dated November 30, 2010 submitted during the underlying arbitration, Mr. Robinson stated that "I am familiar

with [Charter Oak Trust's] operations, assets, liabilities and financial condition, and state that [Charter Oak Trust] has the current ability to satisfy a judgment of \$30 million" (Colbath Decl. Ex. EE at  $\P$  4).

Molly Carpenter, the wife of Daniel Carpenter, was listed as Nova Group's treasurer in its August 28, 2012 filing with the Connecticut Secretary of State (Colbath Ex. S). Mrs. Carpenter is also listed as a "Plan Sponsor Signatory Designee" for Charter Oak Trust in a PNC Custody Agreement dated January 9, 2007 (Colbath Decl. Ex. U at COT\_PNC000021). Finally, Mrs. Carpenter serves as Chairwoman for Benistar Admin Services, Inc., which contracts with Nova Group to provide administrative services (Colbath Decl. Ex. FF at 469:13-471:17). For example, Nova Group's 2009 tax return reflects that it paid \$672,000 to Benistar Admin Services, Inc. (Colbath Decl. Ex. GG).

Amanda Rossi is listed as a "Trustee" of Charter Oak

Trust in a TD Bank account statement from December 2009 (Colbath

Decl. Ex. HH). Christiana Bank & Trust, the insurance trustee of

Charter Oak Trust, sent account statements to Ms. Rossi's

attention (Colbath Decl. Ex. II). Ms. Rossi signed Nova Group's

2004 corporate income tax return as "President" (Colbath Decl.

Ex. JJ). Ms. Rossi is also listed as a signatory to a TD Bank

account opened in Nova Group's name in 2009 (Colbath Decl. Ex.

KK), as well as on several bank accounts to which Universitas alleges that Nova Group improperly transferred the insurance proceeds at issue here (Reply Declaration of Paula K. Colbath (Docket Item 207) ("Colbath Reply Decl.") Exs. 3-6). It appears, however, that Mr. Bursey -- not Ms. Rossi -- authorized the deposits to these accounts (Colbath Reply Decl. Exs. 7-11). At her deposition, Ms. Rossi testified that she was employed only by Benistar Admin Services, Carpenter Financial Group and USB Group, Inc. (Rossi Deposition Transcript, dated November 20, 2012, attached as Ex. B to Molly Carpenter's and Amanda Rossi's Memorandum of Law in Opposition to Civil Contempt Motion (Docket Item 192) ("Rossi Dep. Tr.") at 11:2-5, 12:16-17, 14:21-22, 16:13-18). She further testified that she performed office-manager work for these three entities (Rossi Dep. Tr. at 17:3-7), and that she worked as an executive assistant to Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter (Rossi Dep. Tr. at 29:19-30:5).

#### B. Conclusions of Law

As the late Honorable Constance Baker Motley, United States District Judge, explained in <u>D'Orange v. Feely</u>, 959 F. Supp. 631, 634-35 (S.D.N.Y. 1997):

It is a firmly established principal that federal courts possess the inherent power to punish for contempt. See, Chambers v. NASCO, Inc., 501 U.S. 32, 43,

111 S. Ct. 2123, 2132, 115 L. Ed. 2d 27 (1991) ("Courts of justice are universally acknowledged to be vested, by their very creation, with power to impose silence, respect, and decorum, in their presence, and submission to their lawful mandates." (quotation omitted); Young v. United States ex rel. Vuitton et Fils, S.A., 481 U.S. 787, 795, 107 S. Ct. 2124, 2131, 95 L. Ed. 2d 740 (1987); Abrams v. Terry, 45 F.3d 17 (2d Cir. 1995). These powers reach conduct before the court and beyond the court's confines, Young, 481 U.S. at 798, 107 S. Ct. at 2132-33, and are "governed not by rule or statute but by the control necessarily vested in courts to manage their own affairs so as to achieve the orderly and expeditious disposition of cases." Chambers, 501 U.S. at 43, 111 S. Ct. at 2132 (quoting Link v. Wabash R.R. Co., 370 U.S. 626, 630-31, 82 S. Ct. 1386, 1388-89, 8 L. Ed. 2d 734 (1962)).

See also Mitchell v. Lyons Prof'l Servs., Inc., 708 F.3d 463, 467
(2d Cir. 2013); S. New England Tel. Co. v. Global NAPs Inc., 624
F.3d 123, 144 (2d Cir. 2010); Israel v. Carpenter, 95 Civ. 2703
(JCF), 2003 WL 21518830 at \*2 (S.D.N.Y. July 7, 2003) (Francis, M.J.); Merriweather v. Sherwood, 250 F. Supp. 2d 391, 393
(S.D.N.Y. 2003) (McMahon, D.J.).

The standards applicable to a motion for civil contempt are well settled and require only brief review. As the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit explained in <a href="Paramedics">Paramedics</a>
<a href="Electromedicina Comercial">Electromedicina Comercial</a>, Ltda v. GE Med. Sys. Info. Tech.,

Inc., 369 F.3d 645, 655 (2d Cir. 2004):

A party may be held in civil contempt for failure to comply with a court order if "(1) the order the contemnor failed to comply with is clear and unambiguous, (2) the proof of noncompliance is clear and unambiguous, and (3) the contemnor has not diligently

attempted to comply in a reasonable manner." King v. Allied Vision, Ltd., 65 F.3d 1051, 1058 (2d Cir. 1995). It need not be established that the violation was willful. Donovan v. Sovereign Sec. Ltd., 726 F.2d 55, 59 (2d Cir. 1984).

See also Perez v. Danbury Hosp., 347 F.3d 419, 423-24 (2d Cir. 2003); E.E.O.C. v. Local 638, 81 F.3d 1162, 1171 (2d Cir. 1996); Huber v. Midland Marine Bank, 51 F.3d 5, 10 (2d Cir. 1995). The movant bears the burden of showing contempt with clear and convincing evidence. Latino Officers Ass'n City of New York, Inc. v. City of New York, 558 F.3d 159, 164 (2d Cir. 2009); E.E.O.C. v. Local 638, supra, 753 F.2d at 1178. "In the context of civil contempt, the clear and convincing standard requires a quantum of proof adequate to demonstrate a 'reasonable certainty' that a violation occurred." Levin v. Tiber Holding Corp., 277 F.3d 243, 250 (2d Cir. 2002) (internal citation omitted).

"The only defenses to civil contempt are that (1) the order allegedly violated is unclear; (2) the party charged with contempt had no knowledge of the order or (3) proof of noncompliance fails to meet the clear and convincing standard of proof."

JSC Foreign Econ. Ass'n Technostroyexport v. Int'l Dev. & Trade

Servs., Inc., supra, 2006 WL 1206372 at \*6.

The burden is on the alleged contemnor to prove his inability to comply with the order "clearly, plainly, and unmistakably." Huber v. Marine Midland Bank, supra, 51 F.3d at 10;

accord Close-Up Int'l, Inc. v. Berov, 474 F. App'x 790, 795 (2d Cir. 2012). Further, a "court is not required to credit the alleged contemnor's denials if it finds them to be 'incredible in context;'" in addition, "[c]onclusory statements are inadequate to carry [the putative contemnor's] burden." Huber v. Marine Midland Bank, supra, 51 F.3d at 10.

#### 1. Nova Group

The evidence clearly establishes that Nova Group is in contempt of my August 17 Order. First, my August 17 Order was clear and unambiguous; it overruled Nova Group's objections to Universitas' discovery requests and directed that Nova Group respond to Universitas' request for documents and information subpoena by August 31, 2012. Next, there is no dispute that Nova Group failed to comply with my August 17 Order by August 31, 2012. Indeed, Nova Group's counsel wrote on August 30, 2012 -- one day before Nova Group's compliance was due -- that Nova Group would not be providing responses or documents on August 31, 2012 (Colbath Decl. Ex. E). Further, I noted at the September 19, 2012 conference that "there has not been compliance with my August 17 order. And it's not clear to me why there is no one at the entity who can produce the documents" (Colbath Decl. Ex. P at 21:8-10). Thus, it is also plain that Nova Group did not comply

with my August 17 Order by August 31, 2012. Finally, even though it now appears that Nova Group has responded to Universitas' discovery requests (see Kleiman Decl.), this much-delayed response is the antithesis of a diligent attempt to comply with my Order in a reasonable manner. The fact that Nova Group failed to submit any response or opposition to Universitas' motion for contempt further underscores its lack of effort. Accordingly, I conclude that Nova Group should be found in contempt of my August 17 Order.

#### 2. The Nova Group Individuals

The principal issue presented by the pending motion is whether any of the Nova Group Individuals, as non-parties, may be held in contempt for Nova Group's failure to comply with my August 17 Order. According to Universitas, the Nova Group Individuals should be held in contempt because each, as principals of Nova Group, could have effected compliance with my August 17 Order. As a general matter, the Nova Group Individuals argue that they should not be held in contempt because they claim that they are no longer current employees of Nova Group and, therefore, cannot be held responsible for Nova Group's failure to comply with my August 17 Order. I conclude that, with the

exception of Mrs. Carpenter and Ms. Rossi, the Nova Group Individuals are in contempt of my August 17 Order.

"'It is well settled that a court's contempt power extends to non-parties who have notice of the court's order and the responsibility to comply with it.'" Bridgeport Guardians v. Delmonte, 371 F. Supp. 2d 115, 121 n.5 (D. Conn. 2005), quoting Chicago Truck Drivers v. Bhd. Labor Leasing, 207 F.3d 500, 507 (8th Cir. 2000). In Wilson v. United States, 221 U.S. 361, 376 (1911), the Supreme Court held that:

A command to the corporation is in effect a command to those who are officially responsible for the conduct of its affairs. If they, apprised of the writ directed to the corporation, prevent compliance or fail to take appropriate action within their power for the performance of the corporate duty, they no less than the corporation itself, are guilty of disobedience, and may be punished for contempt.

See also United States v. Voss, 82 F.3d 1521, 1526 (10th Cir. 1996) ("[W]hen a subpoena or order unequivocally directs an organization to produce records, the persons who have knowledge of the court's action and who 'fail to take appropriate action within their power' to comply with the subpoena or order may be held in contempt." (internal citation omitted)); Electrical Workers Pension Trust Fund of Local Union 58, IBEW v. Gary's Elec. Serv. Co., 340 F.3d 373, 383 (6th Cir. 2003) ("[B]ecause a civil contempt ruling either attempts to coerce compliance or

compensate the complainant for losses, it is fully appropriate to impose judicial sanctions on the nonparty corporate officer.");

Nat'l Labor Relations Bd. v. Hopwood Retinning Co., 104 F.2d 302,
305 (2d Cir. 1939) ("As an important officer and agent of the Hopwood Company, Hopwood should be held in contempt for his company's non-compliance with the court's order.").

Accordingly, to the extent that a non-party is responsible for the conduct of a contemptuous corporation, courts have either sanctioned or held in contempt such a non-party individual for the actions or non-actions of that corporation. See, e.g., Ferrara v. Nordeve, LLC, 10 Civ. 5844 (JFB) (WDW), 2012 WL 1999643 at \*4 (E.D.N.Y. Apr. 10, 2012) (Report & Recommendation), adopted, 2012 WL 2017501 (E.D.N.Y. May 30, 2012) (recommending that non-party be held in contempt for failure of corporation to comply with court order where "she clearly had control over Nordev and access to the information and documents sought"); Jones v. Regent Asset Mgmt. Solutions, Inc., 10 Civ. 262 (CSH), 2011 WL 2037626 at  $\star$ 3 (D. Conn. May 24, 2011) (noting that it was proper to hold non-party individual in contempt where "there was a strong degree of identity between Defendant Regent Asset Management Solutions, Inc. and its President, CEO, and sole stockholder, Michael Scata"); Amerisource Corp. v. Rx USA Int'l Inc., 02 Civ. 2514, 2010 WL 2730748 at \*5 (E.D.N.Y. July 6, 2010) (concluding that the court had the inherent power to sanction a non-party where the non-party was the majority shareholder and chief executive and managed the litigation on behalf of the defendant); <a href="Diamant v. GMS Diamonds Corp.">Diamant v. GMS Diamonds Corp.</a>, 04 Civ. 2636 (RCC), 2004 WL 2710028 at \*1 (S.D.N.Y. 2004) (Casey, D.J.) (concluding that principal and sole shareholder of a corporation could be held in contempt for corporation's failure to comply with a subpoena); <a href="Spectacular Venture">Spectacular Venture</a>, <a href="L.P. v. World Star Int'l, Inc.">L.P. v. World Star Int'l, Inc.</a>, 927 F. Supp. 683, 685 (S.D.N.Y. 1996) (holding in contempt individual non-party who was the president and principal of defendant that failed to comply with court order); <a href="In re Snider Farms">In re Snider Farms</a>, <a href="Inc.">Inc.</a>, 125 B.R. 993, 999 (Bankr. N.D. Ind. 1991) ("[T]he Respondent, as responsible executive officer of the Debtor, and legally identified with it, can be held in contempt, because the Debtor failed to comply with the Court's orders.").

Furthermore, such a non-party may not avoid contempt or other sanctions through self-serving statements that artificially claim that the individual is no longer associated with the contemptuous party. See People of the State of N.Y. by Vacco v. Operation Rescue Nat'l, 80 F.3d 64, 70 (2d Cir. 1996) (in the context of an injunction, "an organization and its agents may not circumvent a valid court order merely by making superficial changes in the organization's name or form"); Jones v. Regent

Asset Mgmt. Solutions, Inc., supra, 2011 WL 2037626 at \*4 (sanctions appropriate for failure to comply with post-judgment discovery notwithstanding non-party's claim that he had resigned from corporation; claimed resignation occurred after default judgement was entered, and non-party remained listed as agent for service and officer in states' corporate records); Colonial Williamsburg Found. v. Kittinger Co., 792 F. Supp. 1397, 1406 (E.D. Va. 1992), aff'd, 38 F.3d 133 (4th Cir. 1994) ("[T]he case law establishes that an individual who is responsible for ensuring that a corporation complies with a court order cannot escape liability merely by removing himself from the day-to-day operations of the corporation and washing his hands of responsibility.").

Because each of the Nova Group Individuals present similar, but non-identical, arguments, I shall address each below separately.

#### a. Wayne Bursey

Mr. Bursey should be held in contempt. Notwithstanding his <u>ipse dixit</u> assertions that he is not a current officer of Nova Group, the evidence strongly suggests otherwise. Universitas has presented a number of documents that demonstrate that Mr. Bursey was the trustee of Charter Oak Trust, an entity

closely affiliated with Nova Group and central to these actions. Indeed, during the arbitration, Mr. Bursey submitted a declaration, as President of Nova Group, confirming his familiarity with Charter Oak Trust's assets. Particularly compelling is Nova Group's August 28, 2012 filing with the Secretary of State that lists Mr. Bursey as President. The fact that this document was filed only three days before Nova Group's compliance with my August 17 Order was due discredits Mr. Bursey's conclusory statements that he is not a corporate officer of Nova Group. Furthermore, the alleged transfers of the insurance proceeds at issue here were authorized by Mr. Bursey (Colbath Reply Decl. Ex. 7-11). This evidence, when taken in conjunction with Mr. Robinson's representation at the September 19, 2012 conference that Mr. Bursey was one of the individuals constituting Nova Group and was in a position to respond to Universitas' discovery requests and the August 30, 2012 letter identifying Mr. Bursey as the individual at Nova Group who could search for documents, leads overwhelmingly to the conclusion that Mr. Bursey, for all practical purposes, is responsible for the conduct of Nova Group. Even though Mr. Busey testified at his deposition that he was unaware of my August 17 Order, this statement establishes, at most, wilful blindness in view of the evidence demonstrating Mr. Bursey's significant role at Nova Group.

Moreover, this assertion is particularly suspect because Mr. Bursey's deposition was ordered as a result of the September 19, 2012 conference that discussed, in part, my August 17 Order. Finally, aside from this deposition testimony, Mr. Bursey has provided no other evidence to corroborate his claim that he is no longer an officer or principal of Nova Group.

Accordingly, I conclude that Mr. Bursey should be found in contempt of my August 17 Order.

#### b. Daniel Carpenter

I also conclude that Daniel Carpenter should be held in contempt. Although Mr. Carpenter claims that, in August 2012, he was not an officer or custodian of Nova Group, he, like Mr. Bursey, has failed to support this assertion with any form of evidence other than his own statements. In contrast, the evidence presented by Universitas demonstrates that Mr. Carpenter, at a minimum, functions as a de facto officer of Nova Group. Mr. Carpenter does not dispute that he was the founder and chairman of Nova Group. He has provided no evidence, other than his own statements, to suggest that he no longer serves in those roles. As I concluded above with respect to Mr. Bursey, the inference is particularly compelling that Mr. Carpenter is responsible for the actions of Nova Group because Mr. Robinson represented at the

September 19, 2012 discovery conference that Mr. Carpenter was an individual who could respond to Universitas' discovery requests (Colbath Decl. Ex. P at 5:17-19). Lastly, Mr. Carpenter's argument that a protective order issued in a civil case pending in the District of Massachusetts shields him from contempt liability here (Memorandum of Daniel Carpenter in Opposition to Motion for Civil Contempt Filed by Universitas Education, LLC (Docket Item 132) at 3-4 n.1) is unavailing. First, I note that Mr. Carpenter failed to provide a copy of the protective order. Next, this order was not issued from this court and there is no indication that it was meant to apply beyond the action pending in the District of Massachusetts. Finally, the discovery that was the subject of my August 17 Order was sought not from Mr. Carpenter himself, but rather from Nova Group as an entity and, therefore, even assuming that the Massachusetts protective order would have shielded him from discovery, its protections would be inapplicable here.

I conclude, therefore, that Mr. Carpenter is responsible for the conduct of Nova Group and should be held in contempt.

#### c. Jack E. Robinson

Mr. Robinson should also be held in contempt. The evidence demonstrates that Mr. Robinson also functioned as a

corporate officer of Nova Group such that he can be held responsible for its conduct. He previously served as general counsel, and was listed as assistant secretary for Nova Group. Further, during the underlying arbitration, Mr. Robinson stated that he was familiar with the operations, assets, liabilities and financial condition of Charter Oak Trust. Given the small size of Nova Group and its close relationship with Charter Oak Trust, this evidence strongly suggests that Mr. Robinson's role at Nova Group is significant. Moreover, Mr. Robinson has provided no evidence to corroborate his <a href="ipse dixit">ipse dixit</a> statements that he is no longer an officer of Nova Group. It is difficult to credit these uncorroborated assertions in view of both the evidence that does link him to Nova Group and his continued representation of Nova Group in these actions.

Accordingly, I conclude that Mr. Robinson, practically speaking, is responsible for Nova Group and, thus, should be held in contempt.<sup>4</sup>

Finally, Mr. Robinson also requests that the court <u>sua</u> <u>sponte</u> strike those portions of Universitas' motion for contempt that relate to him because they allegedly contain "impertinent and scandalous" statements (Opposition of Jack E. Robinson to Motion for Civil Contempt Filed by Universitas Education, LLC (Docket Item 194) at 7-11). However, Mr. Robinson has failed to identify any authority that justifies such relief. Accordingly, I recommend that this application be denied.

### d. Molly Carpenter

I conclude that Mrs. Carpenter should not be held in contempt for Nova Group's failure to comply with my August 17 Order. As with the other Nova Group Individuals, Mrs. Carpenter claims, but provides no evidence, that she is no longer an employee of Nova Group. Although there is documentary evidence that lists Mrs. Carpenter as treasurer for Nova Group as of August 28, 2012 and as a signatory on accounts held in Charter Oak Trust's name, I conclude that the record does not clearly establish that Mrs. Carpenter's role at Nova Group was as extensive or central as those of the Nova Group Individuals discussed above. Nor does her role as Chairwoman of Benistar Admin Services Inc. establish that she was a controlling officer of Nova Group. Although it appears that these entities are closely related, this close relationship does not necessarily demonstrate that Mrs. Carpenter is or was responsible for Nova Group's management. Universitas' argument that Mrs. Carpenter, as treasurer, would have been in a position to comply with my August 17 Order on behalf of Nova Group does not mean that she was a corporate officer chargeable with such responsibility. In the absence of evidence that Mrs. Carpenter actually functioned as a controlling officer of Nova Group, it is not appropriate to hold

her responsible for the conduct of Nova Group. Accordingly, I conclude that Mrs. Carpenter should not be held in contempt.

## e. <u>Amanda Rossi</u>

I also conclude that Amanda Rossi should not be held in contempt. Notwithstanding the appearance of Ms. Rossi's name in an official capacity on Nova Group and Charter Oak Trust documents, there is not sufficient evidence that she was officially responsible for the affairs of Nova Group. At her deposition, Ms. Rossi testified that was not even, in fact, employed by Nova Group and that her duties were largely administrative in function. In light of this testimony, it would be unreasonable to draw the inference from the evidence that Universitas offers that Ms. Rossi was in a position to authorize Nova Group's compliance with my August 17 Order. Finally, although Ms. Rossi is a signatory on the bank accounts into which Universitas claims that Nova Group improperly deposited the insurance proceeds, Mr. Bursey signed the deposit slips and endorsed the checks. This attenuates any inference that Ms. Rossi was a controlling officer of Nova Group if she did not actually participate in one of the central transactions at issue.

Accordingly, I conclude that Ms. Rossi should not be held in contempt.

### f. The Fifth Amendment

Finally, Messrs. Bursey and Carpenter argue that they should not be held in contempt because their compliance with my August 17 Order on behalf of Nova Group would have infringed upon their Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination particularly because of the pending grand jury investigation that has named them as targets. This argument is misplaced and is no defense to contempt here. First, it is well established -- and undisputed by any of the Nova Group Individuals -- that a corporation such as Nova Group has no Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination. Braswell v. United States, 487 U.S. 99, 102 (1988); In re Two Grand Jury Subpoenae Duces Tecum, 769 F.2d 52, 57 (2d Cir. 1985); see also Louis Vuitton Malletier S.A. v. LY USA, Inc., 676 F.3d 83, 92 n.5 (2d Cir. 2012) ("[A] corporation may not refuse to submit to a Rule 30(b)(6) deposition, or to turn over corporate records, on the grounds that such acts may tend to incriminate it."). Here, compliance with my August 17 Order required responses only in a representative capacity,  $\underline{i} \cdot \underline{e} \cdot ,$ on behalf of Nova Group as a corporation, and not in an individual capacity. Accordingly, the personal Fifth Amendment privilege of Messrs. Bursey and Carpenter would not have been implicated because any responses would have been submitted only in a

Jury Subpoeanas Issued June 18, 2009, 593 F.3d 155, 158 (2d Cir. 2010) (per curiam) ("[T]he custodian of corporate records, who acts as a representative of the corporation, cannot refuse to produce corporate records on Fifth Amendment grounds. This is true (1) whether the subpoena is directed to the corporation itself or to the custodian in his representative capacity, see [Bellis v. United States, 417 U.S. 85, 90 (1974)], and (2) 'regardless of how small the corporation may be,' [Bellis v. United States, supra, 417 U.S. at 100]."). Moreover, given that it appears that Nova Group has responded to Universitas' document requests and information subpoena -- albeit many months past the deadline -- any concerns about the Fifth Amendment implications of their compliance with my August 17 Order on behalf of Nova Group are effectively moot.

#### C. Proposed Remedy

As relief, Universitas requests that an order be entered directing that (1) Nova Group and the Nova Group Individuals each pay monetary sanctions in the amount of \$2500 per day for each day that they have failed to comply with my August 17 Order beginning from September 1, 2012 to the date of compliance; (2) the Nova Group Individuals appear before the Court on a date

certain to show cause why each should not be arrested and held in prison until such time as they comply with my August 17 Order;

(3) Nova Group deposit the amount of \$30,450,690.31<sup>5</sup> with the court until the final resolution of Nova Group's appeal to the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit<sup>6</sup> and (4) the payment of Universitas' attorneys' fees and costs associated with this motion for contempt.

"The imposition of civil contempt sanctions may serve dual purposes: to secure future compliance with court orders and to compensate the party that has been wronged." <a href="Paramedics">Paramedics</a>
<a href="Electromedicina Comercial">Electromedicina Comercial</a>, <a href="Ltda.v.GE Med. Sys. Info. Tech.">Ltda.v. GE Med. Sys. Info. Tech.</a>,

Inc., <a href="supra">supra</a>, 367 F.3d at 657; <a href="see also Int'l Union">see also Int'l Union</a>, <a href="Union">United Mine</a>
<a href="Workers of Am.v. Bagwell">Workers of Am. v. Bagwell</a>, <a href="512">512</a> U.S. 821, 829 (1994) ("A contempt fine accordingly is considered civil and remedial if it either 'coerce[s] the defendant into compliance with the court's order, <a href="[or] . . . compensate[s]">compensate[s]</a> the complainant for losses sustained.'"

 $<sup>^5</sup>$ This sum is comprised on \$30,181,880.30 representing the judgment entered against Nova Group (Docket Item 41) and \$268,810.01 in attorneys' fees and costs ordered by Judge Swain on October 5, 2012 (Docket Item 162).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Nova Group had sought to dismiss this action for lack of subject matter jurisdiction, and Judge Swain denied that motion (Docket Item 161). Nova Group appealed from that order. The Court of Appeals has affirmed Judge Swain's denial of Nova Group's motion to dismiss for subject matter jurisdiction.

Universitas Educ., LLC v. Nova Grp., Inc., No. 12-3504. 2013 WL 781100 (2d Cir. Mar. 4, 2013) (Summary Order).

(quoting United States v. United Mine Workers, 330 U.S. 258, 303-04 (1947)); accord F.T.C. v. Verity Int'l, Ltd., 443 F.3d 48, 70 (2d Cir. 2007); Manhattan Indus., Inc. v. Sweater Bee by Banff, Ltd., 885 F.2d 1, 5 (2d Cir. 1989); Perfect Fit Indus., Inc. v. Acme Quilting Co., 673 F.2d 53, 56-57 (2d Cir. 1982).

In view of Nova Group's recent responses to Universitas' document requests and information subpoena, coercive sanctions are not warranted. However, even where a coercive award is no longer necessary, a compensatory award is still appropriate "because the purpose of the award -- 'to compensate [the contempt movant] for the costs it incurred in attempting to [enforce] the Court's order]' -- is not terminated" by the contemnor's ultimate compliance." Shady Records, Inc. v. Source Enters., Inc., 371 F. Supp. 2d 394, 398 (S.D.N.Y. 2005) (Lynch, then D.J., now Cir. J.) (alterations in original), quoting Petroleos Mexicanos v. Crawford Enter., Inc., 826 F.2d 392, 400 (5th Cir. 1987); see also Jaeger v. Massis, No. 00-7390, 2000 WL 1678778 at \*2 (2d Cir. Nov. 3, 2000) (table), citing Backo v. Local 281, United Bhd. of Carpenters & Joiners of Am., 438 F.2d 176, 182 (2d Cir. 1970) ("Insofar as a civil contempt sanction is meant to compensate a complainant, it cannot be mooted by voluntary cessation of the suit. The harm flowing from contumacy is not terminated because the underlying order is terminated;

because the harm persists, so too do the sanctions" (internal footnote omitted)).

The Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit has counseled that when "the fine is compensatory in purpose . . . . 'the sanction should correspond at least to some degree with the amount of damages.'"

Paramedics Electromedicina Comercial, Ltda v. GE Med. Sys. Info. Techs., Inc., supra, 369 F.3d at 658, quoting King v. Allied Vision, Ltd., 65 F.3d 1051, 1062 (2d Cir. 1995); see also Lesser v. U.S. Bank Nat'l Ass'n, 09 Civ. 2362 (KAM) (ALC), 2011 WL 1004708 at \*13 (E.D.N.Y. 2011). "'[S]ome proof of loss must be present to justify [a sanction's] compensatory aspects.'"

Paramedics Electromedicina Comercial, Ltda v. GE Med. Sys. Info. Techs., Inc., supra, 369 F.3d at 658, quoting N.Y. State Nat'l Org. for Women v. Terry, 886 F.2d 1339, 1353 (2d Cir. 1989); accord Weitzman v. Stein, 98 F.3d 717, 719 (2d Cir. 1996) ("The compensatory goal . . . can only be met by awarding to the plaintiff any proven damages.").

With the exception of Universitas' request for attorneys' fees and costs associated with this motion for contempt, its requests for sanctions are coercive in nature. Accordingly, because it appears that Nova Group has now complied with my August 17 Order, such coercive sanctions are not justified.

However, Universitas' request for attorneys' fees and costs stands on different footing, and I conclude that Universitas is entitled to recover the attorneys' fees and costs it incurred in bringing this motion for contempt. This sanction is properly considered compensatory in nature because it will compensate Universitas for the damages it suffered,  $\underline{i}.\underline{e}.$ , its efforts to secure Nova Group's compliance with my August 17 Order. See Jacobs v. Citibank, N.A., 318 F. App'x 3, 4 (2d Cir. 2008) ("Although Jacobs contends that the award of attorneys' fees was punitive because he had already complied with the terms of the at-issue order by the time the sanction was imposed, the district court's grant of attorneys' fees was to compensate Citibank for part of the expenses they incurred due to Jacobs' contemptuous conduct."). As noted by the Honorable Gerard E. Lynch, then District Judge, now Circuit Judge, "whether willful contempt is a prerequisite for an attorneys' fee award remains an open question in this Circuit." Shady Records, Inc. v. Source Enters., Inc., 351 F. Supp. 2d 64, 67 (S.D.N.Y. 2004) (Lynch, then D.J., now Cir. J.); see also Mattina v. Saigon Grill Gourmet Rest., Inc., 08 Civ. 3332 (DC), 2009 WL 323507 at \*8 (S.D.N.Y. Feb. 4, 2009) (Chin, then D.J., now Cir. J). Nonetheless, "[w]hen deciding whether to award fees, courts have focused on the willfulness of the contemnor's misconduct" and "a finding of

willfulness strongly supports granting them." Weitzman v. Stein,
98 F.3d 717, 719 (2d Cir. 1996); accord Manhattan Indus., Inc. v.

Sweater Bee by Banff, Ltd., supra, 885 F.2d at 8.

Nova Group willfully flouted my August 17 Order. noted above, prior to the recent declaration submitted by Nova Group's counsel, it appears that Nova Group made no effort to comply with my August 17 Order. Indeed, in a letter from its former counsel, it affirmatively represented to Universitas that it would not be complying with my Order. In addition, Nova Group failed to file an opposition or a response of any kind to Universitas' motion for contempt. Nova Group's extremely belated responses to Universitas' discovery requests do not un-do its many months of non-compliance, and a contrary conclusion would effectively eviscerate court-ordered deadlines. Accordingly, I conclude that Nova Group's contempt was willful and that Universitas is entitled to its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in attempting to secure Nova Group's compliance with my August 17 Order. See, e.q., Akman v. Pep Boys Manny Moe & Jack of Delaware, Inc., 11 Civ. 3252 (MKB), 2013 WL 2237542 at \*8 (E.D.N.Y. May 21, 2013); Software Freedom Conservancy, Inc. v. Westinghouse Digital Electronics, LLC, 812 F. Supp. 2d 483, 491 (S.D.N.Y. 2011) (Scheindlin, D.J.); Leser v. U.S. Bank Nat'l

Ass'n, supra, 2011 WL 1004708 at \*13; Shady Records, Inc. v.

Source Enters., Inc., supra, 351 F. Supp. 2d at 67.

I further recommend that Messrs. Bursey, Carpenter and Robinson be held jointly and severally liable with Nova Group for the attorneys' fees and costs Universitas incurred in attempting to secure Nova Group's compliance with my August 17 Order. In view of my conclusions above that these three individuals were responsible for Nova Group's conduct when I issued my August 17 Order, their failures to ensure that Nova Group complied with my Order were also willful. There is no indication that they made any attempts to comply with my August 17 Order on behalf of Nova Group. Rather, as noted above, it appears that each simply sought to avoid any responsibility through uncorroborated assertions that they were no longer affiliated with Nova Group. Such tactics lend support to a finding that Messrs. Bursey, Carpenter and Robinson acted willfully in failing to comply with my August 17 Order on behalf of Nova Group.

Accordingly, I conclude that Messrs. Bursey, Carpenter and Robinson should be held jointly and severally liable with Nova Group for the reasonable attorneys' fees and costs Universitas incurred in bringing this motion for contempt. I recommend that Universitas be directed to submit affidavits and contemporaneous time and billing records sufficient to document

the fees and costs it incurred in bringing this motion for contempt.

### III. Conclusion

Accordingly, I certify the facts set forth above and that Nova Group, Wayne H. Bursey, Daniel E. Carpenter and Jack E. Robinson have failed to comply with my August 17 Order in any respect. I further recommend that Nova Group, Wayne H. Bursey, Daniel E. Carpenter and Jack E. Robinson be ordered to reimburse Universitas for the reasonable attorneys' fees and costs it incurred in bringing this motion for contempt and that Universitas be directed to submit affidavits and contemporaneous time records sufficient to prove the fees and costs it incurred in bringing this motion.

#### IV. Objections

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(c) and Rule 72(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the parties shall have fourteen (14) days from receipt of this Report to file written objections. See also Fed.R.Civ.P. 6(a). Such objections (and responses thereto) shall be filed with the Clerk of the Court, with courtesy copies delivered to the Chambers of the Honorable Laura Taylor Swain, United States District Judge, 500 Pearl

Street, Room 755, New York, New York 10007, and to the Chambers of the undersigned, 500 Pearl Street, Room 750, New York, New York 10007. Any requests for an extension of time for filing objections must be directed to Judge Swain. FAILURE TO OBJECT WITHIN FOURTEEN (14) DAYS WILL RESULT IN A WAIVER OF OBJECTIONS AND WILL PRECLUDE APPELLATE REVIEW. Thomas v. Arn, 474 U.S. 140, 155 (1985); United States v. Male Juvenile, 121 F.3d 34, 38 (2d Cir. 1997); IUE AFL-CIO Pension Fund v. Herrmann, 9 F.3d 1049, 1054 (2d Cir. 1993); Frank v. Johnson, 968 F.2d 298, 300 (2d Cir. 1992); Wesolek v. Canadair Ltd., 838 F.2d 55, 57-59 (2d Cir. 1988); McCarthy v. Manson, 714 F.2d 234, 237-238 (2d Cir. 1983).

Dated: New York, New York July 11, 2013

SO ORDERED

HENRY PITMAN

United States Magistrate Judge

Copies transmitted to:

All Counsel

# Exhibit 16



GRIST MILL PLAZA 100 GRIST MILL ROAD SIMSBURY, CT 06070

> Melissa Leppink Claims Examiner Lincoln Financial Group 100 North Green Street Dept 5310 Greensboro, N. C. 27401

October 22, 2008

RECEIVED

0CT 2 8 2008

CLAIMS - 5310

Re: Sash Spencer Death Claim 587487

Dear Ms. Leppink:

The Charter Oak Trust has been the Owner and Beneficiary of the Sash Spencer Lincoln Financial Group policies 7305475 and 7320809 since the inception of the policies. We have a fiduciary responsibility and legal obligation to carry out Mr. Spencer's wishes as he intended in a timely fashion to pay those death proceeds to a charity that he established prior to his death. As you are aware, Mr. Spencer passed away on June 10, 2008 and to date we have not been able to move forward with the settlement of this claim. I am enclosing the obituaries previously provided to you and Proof of Death from the New York Presbyterian Hospital.

As you can see from the obituaries, Mr. Spencer was a famous businessman, the youngest partner ever at McKinsey & Company and the president of several Fortune 500 Companies before starting one of the most successful hedge funds in history. I only mention this so you can understand my concerns over the delay. There is no doubt that Mr. Spencer is dead. He did not commit suicide. He did not die from nondisclosed hang-gliding in the French Alps. He did not die from lung cancer from too much smoking. In fact, he picked up an infection from a stay in the hospital that killed a totally healthy man that expected to live at least another 20 years.

Let me also point out that this is no "Butcher of Brooklyn" case where Lincoln did eventually pay out a \$10,000,000 death claim after an investigation of about a year into some strange and suspicious, if not totally morbid, circumstances surrounding a Stranger Owned Life Insurance case. Here we have a person easily worth a Half Billion Dollars that could afford to have insurance made payable to his Charitable Foundation to provide scholarships to poor inner city youth. I do not understand why you need to bother the widow in this case, Mary Spencer, his wife of 47 years. Hasn't she suffered enough?? My point being, Charter Oak has been the Owner and Beneficiary of the policies from the beginning. We have a duty to pay the Charity, Universitas, LLC. Why do you need to bother the poor widow in this case?? As you can see, I am more than a little frustrated with the investigator's lack of progress. Please see what you can do to expedite this unnecessary investigation. I have been in the insurance business for 30 years, and I see no reason to hold up this death claim any longer.

EXHIBIT 104

AAA Case No. 13195 Y 1558 10

According to Barbara Korfel of our office, there are a number of items in which you recommended that would be needed to proceed with the claim processing:

 A currently dated and signed authorization to release medical, pharmacy and dental records. (We can provide those to you as Owner of the policies).

RECEIVED

- A recently dated and signed authorization from New York Presbyterian Hospital OCT 2 3 2008 to provide you with Mr. Spencer's medical records while he was hospitalized **CLAIMS - 5310** prior to his death (I suggest we can provide that as well).
- An interview scheduled with the next of kin and 10 years of medical, dental and pharmaceutical records to compare against medical records your underwriters reviewed at the time of the application. (As Owners of the polices we are authorized to obtain these records).

Mr. Spencer was a very successful businessman and decided to pass on a charitable legacy to his foundation Universitas Education, LLC as the beneficiary of his life insurance and he elected to entrust that responsibility to our Charter Oak Trust in order to make that happen. It is shameful that we cannot proceed with his desires as expeditiously as he would have expected if he were alive today.

The ultimate beneficiary, Universitas Education, LLC continues to be patient with us for the moment, but I fear that in due time they will become suspicious of your lack of performance.

We have been making weekly contact with Lincoln Financial Group to check on the progress of the claim, but so far we haven't gotten anywhere. I know as time goes by, we will be accruing interest on these death claim proceeds from the date of death, but our intent is to settle this claim as quickly and professionally as possible. You can certainly appreciate our frustration because over four months have gone by and your investigator hasn't even started to collect the medical records! Your urgency in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Finally, I would like you to provide me in writing an expected timeline of settlement events and the necessary documents you need in order to expedite our claim.

Best regards. Wun Horney

Wayne H. Bursey, Trustee

Charter Oak Trust

cc:

Lydia Tart



GRIST MILL PLAZA 100 GRIST MILL ROAD SIMSBURY, CT 06070

December 11, 2008

Mr. Dennis R. Glass Lincoln Financial Group 150 N. Radnor Chester Rd Radnor, PA 19087

Re: Sash Spencer Death Benefit

Claim Number 587487 on Policy Numbers 7305475 & 7320809

Dear Mr. Glass:

I am the Trustee of the Charter Oak Trust, which is the Owner and Beneficiary of \$30,000,000 of Death Benefit on the life of Mr. Sash Spencer. For your benefit, I have enclosed both the McKinsey & Co. and New York Times obituary notices. Mr. Spencer was one of the youngest principals ever at McKinsey & Co and went on to become the CEO of several Fortune 500 Companies before starting one of America's earliest private equity funds, Holding Capital Group. At the time of his death, Mr. Spencer's wealth was easily over a billion dollars.

I am writing to you at the suggestion of two colleagues of mine, Charlie Induddi Westcott and Dan Carpenter who have told me that you are one of the brightest and best insurance company CEO's in the business. Though I have been in the insurance business for over 30 years, I am sorry that I have not had the pleasure of meeting you in person. I am also sorry to have to bother you to ask for your help in cutting through the normal insurance industry "red-tape." I know there is standard insurance industry protocol for deaths within two years of contracting, but this is no ordinary case, and Mr. Spencer is no ordinary client.

The Charter Oak Trust prides itself on being the biggest and best <u>nondeductible</u> welfare benefit trust designed to help wealthy clients avoid estate and gift taxes through third-party ownership of the policy on their lives payable to a charity or to a family trust of some sort. In Mr. Spencer's case, he established a Private Foundation and a charitable entity that is the beneficiary of the policies on his life held by the Trust. His charity was designed to provide scholarships to poor, deserving inner city youths as a way of giving back something for his own "rags to riches" success story.

Mr. Spencer died in June, and Barbara Korfel from our office has worked diligently and closely with Melissa Leppink of Lincoln in processing this death claim. Unfortunately, it took the Private Investigator six months just to schedule a meeting with the widow, Mr. Spencer's wife of 47 years, Mary Spencer.

TEL: (860) 408-7000 • FAX: (860) 408-7015



Mr. Dennis R. Glass December 11, 2008 Page 2 of 2

I repeatedly told the people at Lincoln that we had any and all medical information that they could possibly desire. They said it was all just standard operating procedure. Now that it has been three weeks from the meeting, I had Barbara Korfel follow up with Melissa on what time frame she expected now that the Investigator had met with Mary Spencer. Her response is that it would take 3-6 months just to obtain the medical records for the last 10 years. Obviously, I was flabbergasted and chagrinned by her response.

Now I can fully understand that if someone said they were not a private pilot and died in a plane crash while helicopter-skiing in the Andes, that kind of death would and should lead to some sort of exhaustive investigation. Perhaps a "nonsmoker" dying of lung cancer warrants an investigation of "10 years of medical records," but I just can't see a perfectly healthy person who dies after contracting an infection during a routine hospital stay warrants the kind of investigation contemplated here. Assume for the sake of argument, that some discrepancy or minor indiscretion turns up in the medical records, is Lincoln really going to risk going to court over some immaterial item that pops up in the medical record? This is a well known and well respected person who never did a fraudulent thing in his life. And who is the ultimate beneficiary of his charitable largesse? Inner city children. Bottom line, I am at a loss to explain to Mrs. Spencer's attorney or the Charity's attorneys why this death benefit claim process is taking so long. I have lost all credibility with them. I need your help to cut through the insurance company bureaucracy and "red tape" to get this claim paid. I would appreciate all efforts on your part to help us through this frustrating process.

Lastly, let me just say what big fans we are of Lincoln, and that we will be on track to do over \$200,000,000 of new death benefit with Lincoln in 2009. Because a charity is involved, we plan to give favorable plugs for everyone involved, including Lincoln. Charlie is particularly excited about our favorable press and making in roads into the charitable and not-for-profit institutions. Paying this death claim will be a good shot in the arm for all of us.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Very best regards,

WMM HMMsey.

Wayne H. Bursey



GRIST MILL PLAZA 100 GRIST MILL ROAD SIMSBURY, CT 06070

March 6, 2009

Ms. Valerie Loftin Vice President – Claims Lincoln Financial Group 100 North Greene Street Greensboro, NC 27401

Re: Sash Spencer Death Claim # 587487

Dear Ms. Loftin:

I feel that I must once again advise you of the unnecessary delays on the processing of - the Sash Spencer death claim.

Melissa Leppink of your office has done an excellent job keeping us up to date with the receipt of all the doctor, hospital, and medical records. Due to her diligent record keeping, we know that it is over a month that we were waiting for the last few doctor reports. The absolutely last doctor report outstanding is a doctor who was mentioned in passing in one of the latest medical reports mentioned by a doctor who was not even one of Mr. Spencer's primary care physicians. That doctor now needs to search his archives to find any and all files that he might have on someone he does not remember as a patient.

I mention this only because we will, of course, be demanding interest from the date of death. On a Death Benefit of \$30,000,000 the interest alone comes to \$150,000 a month. In these harsh economic times where all insurance carriers finances are being questioned I am trying to save you a substantial amount of money. The practice of waiting until all medical files are in before reviewing any of the files does not make any sense at all, but especially not in these present trying times.

Lastly, we are in Connecticut and we read terrible stories about the Hartford, as well as other insurance carriers everyday. The Phoenix stock is now valued in pennies rather than dollars. It would be good to know that we do not need to worry about Lincoln's ability to pay this claim.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Best regards,

Warm Hospicce

Trustee

cc: Mr. Dennis Glass

EXHIBIT 126

AAA Case No. 13195 Y 1558 10

TEL: (860) 408-7000

WWW.NOVAPLANS.COM

FAX: (860) 408-7015

CONFIDENTIAL



GRIST MILL PLAZA 100 GRIST MILL ROAD SIMSBURY, CT 06070

April 22, 2009

Mr. Dennis R. Glass Lincoln Financial Group 150 N. Radnor Chester Rd Radnor, PA 19087

Re: Sash Spencer Death Claim #587487

Dear Mr. Glass:

It is with great interest that we notice that Melissa Leppink of Lincoln has gone from Claims Examiner to the Contestable Claims Compliance Unit. We are very concerned that what should be a rather routine review of medical records is turning into an overly long deliberative process.

For the ease of your perusal I have attached our previous correspondence, plus I have added several of the many emails between Barbara Korfel of our office and Ms. Leppink of your office. Please note that we first contacted you about the unnecessary delays in this case on October 22, 2008. Please see letter attached. Please also note that Mr. Spencer was a distinguished American and prominent investor and established and ran one of America's first and foremost hedge funds. We were concerned about delays then, and we are even more concerned now.

Mr. Spencer died of natural causes in a hospital in June of last year. We have diligently supplied Lincoln with every thing they need to pay this death claim.

In the emails between Barbara Korfel and Ms. Leppink of Lincoln, please note the email dated March 12, 2009 from Melissa stating: "The review generally takes two to four weeks; however we are trying to move this along as quickly as possible." Therefore, our expectation was far less than two weeks, and certainly not more than a month. Additionally, please note Melissa's email of February 24, 2009 indicating that Lincoln had in fact received all but one or two records for the Sash Spencer file. Significantly it took two weeks just to track down the medical records for a Doctor who did not even remember treating Mr. Spencer but whose name was mentioned in passing in one of Mr. Spencer's other medical records.

Thus, from the time that Lincoln had the overwhelming majority of the records (see February 4th email) to the time Melissa contacted us saying they had almost everything (February 24th) to the time that everything was sent to be reviewed (see March 12th email) there has been no progress in the adjudication of this claim whatsoever. Moreover, as you can clearly see, there was an unnecessary month delay from the receipt of the overwhelming majority of the material to when the final materials were received and another delay in sending the final package for review and now on

TEL: (860) 408-7000 • FAX: (860) 408-7015



Mr. Dennis Glass April 22, 2009 Page 2 of 2

April 22nd – almost 6 weeks from the beginning of the medical review process (see March 12th email) there has been no change in the status of the Sash Spencer death claim except for Ms. Leppink being moved to the Contestable Claims Compliance Unit.

This is not the first time I have brought this situation to your attention. Please see my letters of December 11, 2008, January 13, 2009 and March 6, 2009 as well as the response by Valerie Loftin of January 7, 2009. Therefore, all things considered, I believe that I have a fiduciary duty to bring a claim against Lincoln for the unpaid death benefit on the life of Sash Spencer if in fact we are not in receipt of the death claim proceeds by the close of business April 30, 2009. That gives Lincoln a full week to complete the review they should have started three months ago, and which they clearly started six weeks ago, and which certainly should have been completed by now.

It is often said in situations like this, "Nothing personal, just business." In this case I truly mean that. You must understand that we have a charity to pay and no one can understand Lincoln's delay at this point. We must assume that with the passage of time, that delay has become negligence, and negligence has become bad faith. I hope I am wrong about this but the emails and letters exchanged between our two firms speak volumes, and I can no longer look the other way. I am sure that if our roles were reversed you would feel the same way I do and would be sending the same demand letter. So, in the spirit of cooperation and good faith dealings and abiding by the terms of your contract with us, please pay the full death claim plus interest at 6% by April 30, 2009.

Thank you for your prompt attention to these matters.

Best regards,
Mraun- Horney.

Wayne H. Bursey For the Sponsor and Trustee

Charter Oak Trust

cc:

William J. McGrath, Esq. Jack E. Robinson, Esq.



GRIST MILL PLAZA 100 GRIST MILL ROAD SIMSBURY, CF 06070

April 27, 2009

Ms. Valerie W. Loftin Chief Claims Officer Lincoln Financial Group 100 North Greene St. Greensboro, NC 27401

RE: Sash Spencer - Claim # 587487

Dear Ms. Loftin:

Please find enclosed the documents you requested in your letter dated April 24, 2009. Coincidentally, we were on a conference call last Thursday (April 23) with Lincoln Financial-Attorneys including Erik Lanning and Compliance Officer Ken Elder concerning the efficacy of the Charter Oak Trust, and we discussed many of these same issues.

It is disappointing to learn that nearly a year after Mr. Spencer's death you are just now reviewing the Charter Oak Trust as the Owner and Beneficiary of the policy and its relationship to Sash Spencer, and the fiduciary duty we have to pay death benefits to the Participant's designated beneficiary, Universitas Education, LLC., Mr. Spencer's private foundation.

Since we have provided this information to Lincoln several times before, I believe it is fair to keep our deadline of Thursday April 30<sup>th</sup> for the receipt of the full death claim proceeds plus the 6% interest from the date of death. The answers to your questions are attached following this letter in the same order as you asked them in your letter, which I also attached for the ease of your perusal.

Best regards, Nomma Arguntum

Wayne H. Bursey

cc: Mr. Dennis Glass

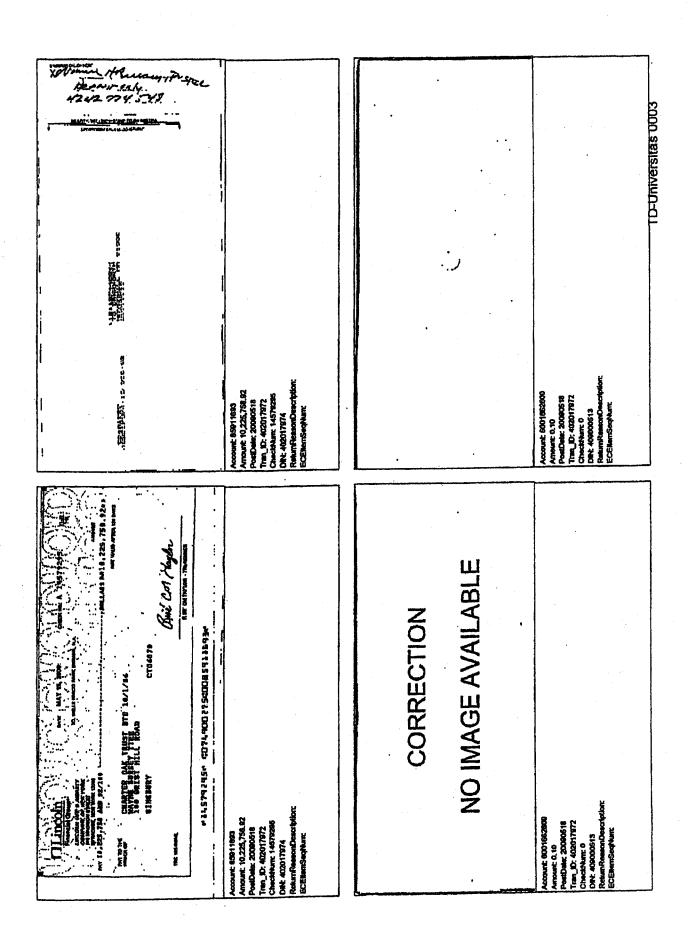
TEL: (860) 408-7000 • FAX: (860) 408-7015

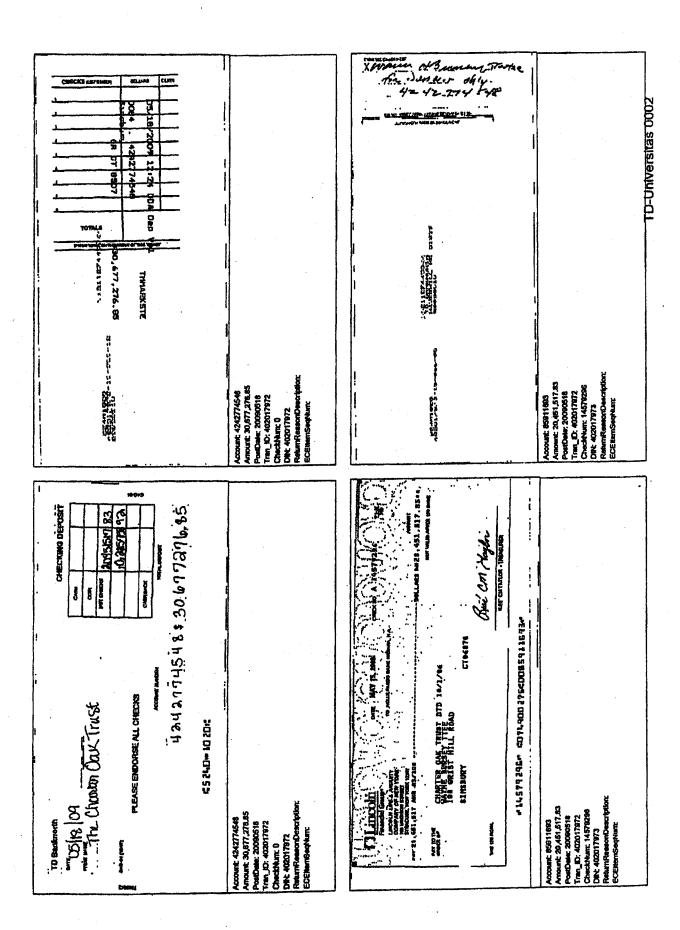
CONFIDENTIAL EXHIBIT 131

LFG-00138

# Exhibit 17

THE A CASTAGE OF STATES OF	
THE A CASTAGE OF STATES OF	
CODE_STATES SHOULD SET ONLY CORRESPOND SEAR REPRESENTATIVE DOES TOWN OF THE STATES SHOULD SEAR SHOULD	
ACCOUNT RELATIONS DATES AND ADDRESS.  ACCOUNT RELATIONS DATES AND ADDRESS.  ACCOUNT RELATIONS DATES AND ADDRESS.  TOTAL - Logal, 1 Trustee  TOTAL -	
THE H BURGET PRICES  WHAT DEPOCKS THE PROPRIATION  SHOW THE PROPRI	
COURT ST REPORTATION  SERVICE STORY STATE OF THE PORTATION STATE OF	V
COURT ST REPORTATION  SERVICE STORY STATE OF THE PORTATION STATE OF	
TOTAL PROPERTY OF STORY AND ADDRESS STORY AND ADDRESS STORY ADDRESS STOR	
COURT ST REPORTATION  SERVICE STORY STATE OF THE PORTATION STATE OF	
COURT ST REPORTATION  SERVICE STORY STATE OF THE PORTATION STATE OF	
CONTROLLED TO THE DATE OF THE CONTROLLED TO THE	
EVEN PRINCIPAL OF THE PRINCIPAL STATE OF THE	$\overline{}$
# Specific States   Part 10   Part 1	I
The Design of the Control of the Con	
SECOND   SET OF SERVICE   SECOND   SE	
THE CONTROL OF THE CO	
METINAL SO    SECURITY CONTROLLATION	- 1
INCLES ON AN INCLES CONTROL CO	1
ST HOLINGS   Decided   D	
CUSTORER & RECREATION  CHOCK STATE OF THE TOTAL COLOR TOWN THE COLOR STATE OF THE COLOR S	
CUSTORER & RECREATION  CHOCK STATE OF THE TOTAL COLOR TOWN THE COLOR STATE OF THE COLOR S	
CURTORIES AS INFORMATION  CONTROL DESIGNATION  Design of Control D	
EXPORTANT INFORMATION    Dispute   D	
The Part II and the state of th	1
Section of the control of the contro	1
MALASS & control tons compared control	
MALASS & control tons compared control	
MALASS & control tons compared control	
DOMAL CUST CHERY VERIFICATION:    Description   Address Siftance   Reference:	
CONAL CUSTOMER VERIFICATION:    Address SPace   Reference:	
Provided Bank   Address of Encounter   Provided Bank   Provided Bank   Supplement   Provided Bank   Supplement   Provided Bank   Supplement   Provided Bank   Supplement   S	
IONAL CUSTOMER VERIFICATION:    Profession law registers all financial institutions to estate, verify and record information than itself blood to the profession of the board of the profession of the professio	
IONAL CUSTOMER VERIFICATION:    Profession law registers all financial institutions to estate, verify and record information than itself blood to the profession of the board of the profession of the professio	
IONAL CUSTOMER VERIFICATION:    Profession law registers all financial institutions to estate, verify and record information than itself blood to the profession of the board of the profession of the professio	
Personal State Services     Adoption of the Content of the Conte	
ESPORTANT INFORMATION  Fodosti ton requires all financial institutions to coloria, verify and report followed that that identifies each person who opens as account, require deterministiply) societ of the blanch content Aprenancy, Aprenal Advanced placement and that identifies a social person appear amounts with the final. Adjacement, Aprenancy of the social and the content of the blanch content Aprenancy, Aprenal Advanced Information prift for a laboration prift for a laboratio	
Foliased two requires all financial institutional to contain, verify and report (schemostics that identified outs) person as account.  I report of the breach control of the based Assessed Approximation and Uniform control (for institution) in the control of the tests of the based and evolution and both the Disposited Assessed Assessed and the control of the based and evolution and both the Disposited Assessed Assessed and the based and evolution and both the Disposited Assessed Assessed and the based and evolution and both the Disposited Assessed	
property of structures of the times of contract the process of the contract of the times of the contract of	
refunds, both hidshight and another of the consum energy, if attenues, bearing substituted for greatest another in the constitute of the consum energy, if attenues, bearing and another publishing bits amount. If you fire during our constitute quarter question in accountment with a consumer property around a consumer	je temani u te šas.
seriginal, both individually and calculated of the excessors around, if offerent, benthy substituted, but lies, in, from time to their, coquete special procedural relation special and an activation reporting special accountment of a good of an accountment of a good of a comment of	
receiving and understand that TB limitation and TB floats, are taked assessed in the State of the Control of th	re parles.
receiving and understand that TB limitation and TB floats, are taked assessed in the State of the Control of th	
y the squates card, I convendence that the deposed account is wheth I can being stated on a pre-most may be not within the head of the control of the light of the square of the control of the control of the square of the control of the	~~
menter channel and the lame buy control becomes the first the control of receiving an authorized and fights the control of the lame buy control becomes the lame and the lame buy control becomes the lame and the lame buy control becomes the lame and the lame buy control becomes the lame buy control becomes the lame buy the lame b	is a the of
menter channel and the lame buy control becomes the first the control of receiving an authorized and fights the control of the lame buy control becomes the lame and the lame buy control becomes the lame and the lame buy control becomes the lame and the lame buy control becomes the lame buy control becomes the lame buy the lame b	ochs, fy
menter channel and the lame buy control becomes the first the control of receiving an authorized and fights the control of the lame buy control becomes the lame and the lame buy control becomes the lame and the lame buy control becomes the lame and the lame buy control becomes the lame buy control becomes the lame buy the lame b	
Gen ben'n titler. We must some set from 2 store I seen from to be a settled by two IPS settle power served to believe the bear section by the bear to see the settle of the section of the	
Gen ben'n titler. We must some set from 2 store I seen from to be a settled by two IPS settle power served to believe the bear section by the bear to see the settle of the section of the	42 <b>4 100</b> 0Å
Warm Hogunium. 5/12/19 THE CHARTER OAK TRUET	
Warm Hogunium. 5/12/19 THE CHARTER OAK TRUET	Industral
Warn Hogenen, 5/12/19 THE CHARTER OAK TRUST	
Total Printers	
ALLEMAN MARKET	
WATNER BLREET	
THE COLUMN TWO IS NOT	
THE SAME	
THE USE OF	





## Exhibit 18

Page 1 of 4

From: DCarpenter US Benefits <"/O=BENISTAR/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=DCUS">

To: "Roman, Jeffrey D" <jeffrey.d.roman@ustrust.com>

Subject: RE: Follow-up

Date: 2009-05-14 10:08:08

Jeff:

No problem. Let me know how things work out with your KYC group. Just so you know, since we had our meeting with US Trust we have already opened new accounts for the Charter Oak Trust with two other major banks. We already have starter checks with one of them. Please get back to Wayne Bursey with any questions on the Trust once your people have reviewed it.

As for Mark, I have asked him to find out who the person was at BOFA that told Rob Boyan that I was not allowed to do wires any more at BOFA on Avon Capital which is a Company that I created and which has control over millions of dollars of assets in several trust accounts. I estimate I have done over TWENTY MILLION DOLLARS in wires at that branch alone in the various accounts that I am a signatory on. So imagine my surprise when an associate of mine was told by Rob Boyan that I could not do wires at BOFA, but we would have to get someone else on the account to do wires. I have asked Mark to get back to me today with the name of that person. Rob Boyan has not returned my call....so maybe when he gets this email he will let me know.

Let me know what you know.

Dan

From: Roman, Jeffrey D [mailto:jeffrey.d.roman@ustrust.com] Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2009 8:33 AM To: DCarpenter US Benefits Cc: Milligan, Mark P; Boyan, Robert; Soyster, Filomena Subject: RE: Follow-up

Dan.

I apologize for the delay in my response. The reason for the delay is that I passed your response on to Filomena. She was going to reach out to the head of our KYC (Know Your Customer) group for thoughts and discussion. I was off yesterday, and will follow-up with Filomena this morning.

Secondly, I just received a call from Mark Milligan. He shared with me a discussion you had with him last night. I would like to set a couple of things straight:

- The branch has it's own protocol and policies they adhere to regarding wire transfers.
- They operate separate and independently from Business Banking and US Trust.
- I have no influence or jurisdiction over them.
- Lastly, we shared with you that we needed time and information to complete our due diligence.

I will ask Filomena to contact you today.

Jeffrey D. Roman

Senior Vice President Private Client Manager U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management

29 South Main Street West Hartford, CT 06107 CT2-110-01-02 Phone: (860) 313-7021 Toll free: 1-800-535-2808

Fax: (860) 313-7042

E-Mail: jeffrey.d.roman@ustrust.com

### **CONFIDENTIAL & PRIVILEGED**

"This communication is considerated and intension only for the addresses. If you are not the intended recipient, you may not copy, disclose, or distribute this messe actions may be unlawful. If you have received this communication in error, please contact the conder of the message to inform him or her of the error. Regular int

Page 2 of 4

ask that you do not send personal or company information of a sensitive or confidential nature through unsecured e-mail. For questions concerning your account relationship with Bank of

From: DCarpenter US Benefits [mailto:dcarpenter@usbenefitsnetwork.com] Sent: Monday, May 11, 2009 4:37 PM To: Roman, Jeffrey D; Kevin US; Wayne NOVA Cc: Soyster, Filomena; Iacovazzi, Cathy N; Dan Carpenter US Benefits Subject: RE: Follow-up

Jeff:

Total nonstarter....

We are already working with the largest banks in the Country including B of A.

All of the Companies that work out of 100 Grist Mill are private companies.....and we do not provide the info you are tooking for to anyone.

We are trying to bring you business.....not vice versa. We know all about "know your client" rules. There are no terrorists allowed in the

The only entity that we will set up with you is Charter Oak Trust......Dan does not own or control the Charter Oak Trust and Wayne will be the NOVA Group Inc is the Sponsor....and NOVA Benefits LLC is the Sponsor of a number of welfare benefit plans.....both are owned by NOVA The NOVA "Partners" are Wayne Bursey, Don Trudeau, and Molly Carpenter.

What else do you need for opening the account for Charter Oak Trust????

Dan

From: Roman, Jeffrey D [mailto:jeffrey.d.roman@ustrust.com] Sent: Monday, May 11, 2009 4:04 PM To: DCarpenter US Benefits; Kevin US; Wayne NOVA Cc: Soyster, Filomena; Iacovazzi, Cathy N Subject: Follow-up

Gentlemen.

Thank you again for your time on Friday. As we discussed, I will need to gather some information as we complete our due diligence prior to continuing our discussion regarding a trust relationship. Please provide me the following information:

- . The name of all the companies run out of 100 Grist Mill Road, Simsbury
- The name of all the companies that Dan owns, operates, directs, etc.
- The ownership make-up of each company (Names of individuals, businesses, LLC's and percentages owned)
- . How any of the companies are related; affiliated; have business transaction between each other, etc.
- The sources and uses of funds for each company. Important to complete our Know Your Customer forms. Any other information that you would deem helpful.

This would be a great start.

Thanks,

Jeffrey D. Roman

Senior Vice President Private Client Manager U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management

29 South Main Street West Hartford, CT 06107 CT2-110-01-02 Phone:(860) 313-7021 Toll free: 1-800-535-2808 Fax: (860) 313-7042

E-Mail: jeffrey.d.roman@ustrust.com

# Exhibit 19

r	n	_	_		-	1
- 1	₽	а	a	е		Ll

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK UNIVERSITAS EDUCATION, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs. Case No.

11-1590-LTS-HBP

NOVA GROUP, INC., as trustee, sponsor, and fiduciary of The CHARTER OAK TRUST WELFARE BENEFIT PLAN,

 	 X

Defendant.

VIDEOTAPED 30(B)(6) DEPOSITION OF GRIST MILL CAPITAL BY PETER A. GOLDMAN Armonk, New York Tuesday, April 30, 2013

Reported by: JOAN WARNOCK

		[Page 2	2]
1			
2			-
3	April 30, 2013		
4	10:00 a.m.		
5			
6	Videotaped 30(B)(6) deposition of	•	
7	GRIST MILL CAPITAL, by Peter A. Goldman,		:
8	held at the offices of Boies, Schiller &		
9	Flexner, LLP, 333 Main Street, Armonk,		
10	New York, pursuant to Subpoena, before		
11	Joan Warnock, a Notary Public of the		
12	State of New York.		
13			
14			
15			
16			
17		•	
18			
19			
20			
21	,		
22			
23			
24			
25			

```
[Page 3]
 1
 2
     APPEARANCES:
 3
         LOEB & LOEB, LLP
 5
         Attorneys for Plaintiff
 6
               345 Park Avenue
 7
               New York, New York 10154
 8
         BY:
               PAULA K. COLBATH, ESQ.
 9
               MICHAEL BARNETT, ESQ.
10
11
         LAW OFFICES OF CAROLE R. BERNSTEIN
12
         Attorneys for Defendants
13
               41 Maple Avenue North
14
               Westport, Connecticut 06880
15
        BY: CAROLE R. BERNSTEIN, ESQ.
16
17
    ALSO PRESENT:
18
        HENRY MARTE, VIDEOGRAPHER
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

[Page 4] P. Goldman 1 VIDEOGRAPHER: This marks the 2 beginning of videotape number one in the videotaped deposition of Mr. Peter A. Goldman in the matter of Universitas 5 Education versus Nova Group, Inc., filed 6 in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York. 8 This deposition is being held at 9 333 Main Street, Armonk, New York, on 10 April 30th, 2013, at approximately 11 ten a.m. The court reporter and video 12 operator are both here on behalf of U.S. 13 Legal Support. 14 Counsel will please introduce 15 themselves for the record. 16 MS. COLBATH: Yes. Paula Colbath 17 from the firm of Loeb & Loeb, LLP, 345 18 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10154 19 representing Universitas. And with me 20 today is my colleague, Michael Barnett. 21 MS. BERNSTEIN: Carole Bernstein, 22 Law Offices of Carole Bernstein, 41 23 Maple Avenue North, Westport, 24 I'm here on behalf Connecticut 06880.

[Page 101]

- P. Goldman
- 2 Q. -- there's a portion of the
- 3 document that shows a checking deposit
- 4 ticket; correct?
- 5 A. Yes. Yes.
- 6 Q. So let's focus on that checking
- 7 deposit ticket. Can you tell me the amount
- 8 of the deposit?
- 9 A. That was the one you just read,
- 10 wasn't it, the 8,677,276.75.
- 11 Q. Right. And in whose account is
- 12 that 8.677 million being deposited?
- 13 A. Well, it looks like Grist Mill
- 14 Capital Delaware.
- 15 Q. And the money, at least based on
- 16 this document, appears to be coming from the
- 17 Charter Oak Trust; right?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And do you have any reason to
- 20 believe that the 8.677 did not originate in
- 21 the Charter Oak Trust?
- 22 A. I have no reason to believe that --
- 23 Q. Okay.
- MS. BERNSTEIN: Can he just finish,
- 25 please.

[Page 102]

- P. Goldman
- 2 A. I have no reason to believe that it
- 3 did not originate from the Charter Oak Trust.
- 4 Q. And do you have any understanding
- 5 as to why Grist Mill Capital Delaware was
- 6 receiving on May 21st, 2009, 8.677 million
- 7 from the Charter Oak Trust?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. You have no understanding as to why
- 10 that transfer was being made to Grist Mill
- 11 Capital Delaware?
- MS. BERNSTEIN: Objection. Asked
- and answered. Don't answer.
- MS. COLBATH: Can I have the
- 15 question read back, please.
- 16 (Record read.)
- MS. BERNSTEIN: And you have my
- objection not to answer. It was asked
- and answered.
- MS. COLBATH: What's the basis of
- 21 --
- MS. BERNSTEIN: The question read
- before.
- MS. COLBATH: You're directing him
- not to answer based on?

[Page 103] P. Goldman 1 MS. BERNSTEIN: Because you're 2 wasting time. He gives you an answer, 3 and then you say, you have no idea why? You asked the same question but in a 5 different tone. MS. COLBATH: So I just want the 7 record to be clear. 8 MS. BERNSTEIN: The record is 9 clear. 10 MS. COLBATH: The direction not to 11 answer is based on what? 12 MS. BERNSTEIN: That it was asked 13 and answered. Move on. 14 MS. COLBATH: Okay. 15 Do you have any understanding as to 16 Q. how the amount of 8.677276.75 was arrived at? 17 Α. No. 18 Did you ask anyone in preparation 19 Q. for today's deposition how that amount was 20 arrived at? 21 22 Α. No. Did you ask anyone prior to today's 23 Q. deposition why this amount was being 24 transferred to Grist Mill Capital?

[Page 104]

- P. Goldman
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Have you seen any documents to
- 4 support the transfer of 8.677276.75 into
- 5 Grist Mill Capital's account?
- 6 MS. BERNSTEIN: Object to the form.
- 7 You can answer.
- 8 A. I don't know what you mean by have
- 9 I seen any documents.
- 10 Q. Have you seen any documents that
- 11 indicate why this very specific amount that
- we've been talking about, the 8,677,276.75,
- was transferred in May 2009?
- 14 A. No, I didn't see any documents
- 15 regarding this.
- 16 Q. Did you speak to anyone about why
- 17 this transfer was being made?
- 18 MS. BERNSTEIN: Objection.
- 19 A. No.
- MS. BERNSTEIN: Asked and answered.
- Q. Now, you made mention earlier today
- 22 about an eight million or eight million and
- 23 change transfer to Grist Mill Capital. Do
- 24 you recall that?
- 25 A. Yes, I do.

[Page 118] P. Goldman 1 that I can confirm myself that I have all the documents that have been 3 furnished to him. MS. BERNSTEIN: I'll take it under 5 advisement. Now, am I correct that the 7 documents that appear on GMC-4 are similar to 8 the documents that we saw on GMC-3, but the transfer is in a different amount? 10 That's correct. Α. 11 And am I correct that GMC-4 12 Q. reflects a transfer of \$2,186,566 from a TD 13 Bank account -- from a Charter Oak Trust bank 14 account at TD Bank, and that amount is being 15 transferred to a Grist Mill Capital account at TD Bank? 17 That's what the document indicates. 18 And do you have any understanding 19 Q. why this transfer was made? 20 21 Α. No. Do you have any understanding as to 22 Q. how the amount \$2,186,566 was arrived at? 23 24 Α. No.

Other than the checks that you have

Q.

[Page 119]

- P. Goldman
- 2 testified to that you've seen reflecting the
- 3 payment from Lincoln Life Insurance Company
- 4 to the Charter Oak Trust, are you aware of
- 5 any other documents that exist to support
- 6 this transfer that's reflected in GMC-4?
- 7 MS. BERNSTEIN: Object to the form.
- 8 You can answer.
- 9 A. I don't know if this relates to
- 10 Lincoln at all. I have no idea.
- 11 Q. So you don't know whether this is
- 12 part of the \$30 million? Is that your
- 13 testimony?
- 14 A. I have no idea. Yes. That's my
- 15 testimony, yes.
- 16 Q. But prior to today you saw a copy
- 17 of the checking debit memo and the checking
- 18 deposit tickets set forth on GMC-4; right?
- 19 A. I'm not positive I saw these
- 20 documents. I know I saw the amount going
- 21 into the account. And that's what I think I
- 22 recall more clearly -- more clear. I clearly
- 23 remember seeing this deposit going into the
- 24 account. I don't recall if I actually saw
- 25 the deposit tickets.

[Page 120]

- 1 P. Goldman
- 2 Q. Have you discussed with anyone why
- 3 this \$2.186 million transfer was being made
- 4 to Grist Mill Capital?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. Do you have any understanding as to
- 7 who authorized this transfer into the Grist
- 8 Mill Capital account?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Do you have any understanding as to
- 11 how this 2.186 million was used by Grist Mill
- 12 Capital?
- 13 A. No.
- MS. BERNSTEIN: Are you done with
- 15 4?
- MS. COLBATH: Yes.
- MS. BERNSTEIN: The witness needs a
- 18 little break.
- MS. COLBATH: Yes. Before we do
- this, we'll take a little break.
- THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.
- MS. COLBATH: No problem.
- 23 VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is
- 24 12:15 p.m. Off the record.
- 25 (Recess taken from 12:15 p.m. to

[Page 121] 1 P. Goldman 2 12:25 p.m.) VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 3 12:25 p.m. We're back on the record. 5 (Plaintiff's GMC Exhibit 5, Document Bates stamped TD-Universitas 6 0107, marked for identification, as of 7 this date.) 8 9 MS. COLBATH: We have marked as the next GMC-5. I'm handing it to the 10 witness. Here you go. It's a 11 single-page document bearing Bates stamp 12 number TD-Universitas 0107. 13 And, Mr. Goldman, my question to 14 0. you is, prior to today, have you seen a copy 15 of any portion of GMC-5? 16 Α. 17 No. Do you agree with me that GMC-5 18 Q. shows a transfer on October 27th, 2009, from 19 the Charter Oak Trust in the amount of 20 \$19,000,800 to an account at TD Bank in the 21 22 name of Grist Mill Capital LLC Delaware? 23 Α. Yes. And do you have any understanding 24 as to why Grist Mill Capital was receiving

[Page 122]

- P. Goldman
- 2 \$19.8 million on October 27, 2009, from the
- 3 Charter Oak Trust?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Do you know how Grist Mill Capital
- 6 used this \$19,000,800?
- 7 A. Other than what I've testified to,
- 8 no.
- 9 Q. Do you know whether Grist Mill
- 10 Capital currently has any of this money
- 11 remaining?
- 12 A. Not to my knowledge.
- Q. Were you aware prior to seeing
- 14 Grist Mill Capital 5 that a transfer had been
- 15 made in October 2009 in the amount of
- 16 \$19,800,000 from the Charter Oak Trust to
- 17 Grist Mill Capital?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Sorry.
- MS. BERNSTEIN: I was going to
- 21 object to the form only because are you
- 22 aware before seeing this exhibit here
- 23 today or before having seen a copy of
- this on his own?
- Q. Before having seen a copy back in

## Exhibit 20

[Page 1]

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

CASE NO. 11-1590-LTS-HBP

UNIVERSITAS EDUCATION, LLC
Plaintiff,

VS.

NOVA GROUP, INC., as trustee, sponsor and fiduciary of the CHARTER OAK TRUST WELFARE BENEFIT PLAN,

Defendant.

JULY 26, 2013

9:30 a.m.

DEPOSITION OF PETER A. GOLDMAN

REPORTED BY:

MARY G. VAN DINA, Certified Court Reporter, Certified LiveNote Reporter

```
[Page 2]
1
    July 26, 2013
2
    10:00 a.m.
3
         Deposition of PETER A. GOLDMAN, taken by
5
    Plaintiffs, pursuant to subpoena, at the offices
6
    of LOEB & LOEB, LLP, 345 Park Avenue, New York,
7
    New York, before MARY G. VAN DINA, a Certified
8
    Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public within and
9
    for the State of New York.
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

```
[Page 3]
1
   APPEARANCES:
2
3
  LOEB & LOEB, LLP
4
5
  345 Park Avenue
6 4 New York, New York 10154
    BY: PAULA K. COLBATH, ESQUIRE
7
    Attorneys for the Plaintiff
8
9
    BRIEF CARMEN & KLEIMAN, LLP
10
   805 Third Avnue
11
    New York, New York 10601
12
   BY: IRA KLEIMAN, ESQ.
13
    Attorneys for the Defendants
14
15
    ALSO PRESENT:
16
17
    NICHOLAS TAYLOR, Summer Associate at Brief Carmen
18
19
    & Kleiman
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

				[Page 4]		
1						
2		INDEX		•		
3.						
4	WITNESS		PAGE			
5						
6	PETER A. GOLDMAN					
7	BY MS. COL	BATH	6, 245			
8	BY MR. KLE	IMAN:	244			
9						
10		EXHIBITS				
11						
12	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	PAGE			
13	Goldman 1	Subpoena to Testify	at 39			
14		Deposition in a Civ	il.			
15		Action				
16	Goldman 2	State of Delaware A	nnual 53			
17	Franchise Tax Report For					
18		Tax Year 2008 and 2	2010			
19	Goldman 3	2009 U.S. corporati	on 57			
20		income tax return F	orm			
21		1120				
22	Goldman 4	Settlement Agreemen	nt, 61			
23		Bates numbers				
24		Caldwell-000515 thr	rough			
25		539				

				[Page 5]
1				
2	Goldman 5	Affidavit of Wayne	64	
3		Bursey, November 12, 2010		
4	Goldman 6	Response to Information	69	
5		Subpoena		
6	Goldman 7	Declaration of Jack	87	
7		Robinson dated November		
8		30, 2010		
9	Goldman 8	Memorandum of Law in	143	
10		Support of Motion to		•
11		Dismiss		
12	Goldman 9	A Stipulation of	143	
13		Dismissal With Prejudice		
14	Goldman 10	Deposit Ticket and the	144	
15		Check From Penn Mutual to		
16		Grist Mill Capital Dated		
17		June 13, 2011		
18	Goldman 11	Group of Documents	161	
19	Goldman 12	Group of Documents	169	
20	Goldman 13	Collection of Letters	220	
21		\$ 		
22				
23				
24				
25				

[Page 6] 1 Goldman 7/26/13 2 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND 3 AGREED by and between the attorneys for the respective parties herein, that 5 filing and sealing be and the same are 6 hereby waived. 7 IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED 8 AND AGREED that all objections, except 9 as to the form of the question, shall be 10 reserved to the time of the trial. 11 IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED 12 AND AGREED that the within deposition 13 may be sworn to and signed before any 14 officer authorized to administer an 15 oath, with the same force and effect as 16 if signed and sworn to before the Court. 17 18 PETER A. GOLDMAN, 12 Fairlawn Parkway, 19 Rye Brook, New York 10573, having been duly sworn 20 by the Notary Public, testified as follows: 21 EXAMINATION BY MS. COLBATH: 22 Q. Good morning, Mr. Goldman. 23 A. Good morning. 24 My name is Paula Colbath, and as you 25 know, I represent the Charter Oak Trust, Nova

[Page 19]

- 1 Goldman 7/26/13
- 2 didn't need to file them.
- 3 Q. Well, which years didn't they file tax
- 4 returns?
- 5 A. I don't know the answer to that.
- 6 Q. Do you know whether they had any
- 7 income in 2009?
- A. I never saw income on any of the
- 9 returns that I did get to see.
- 10 Q. What is the Charter Oak Trust?
- 11 A. Charter Oak Trust is a benefit, a
- 12 death benefit plan for employees for different
- 13 entities. So if an organization had a key man or
- 14 person and they wanted to have a life insurance
- 15 policy on that person, giving that person's
- 16 beneficiary a death benefit and Charter Oak would
- 17 be the holder of the policy in the trust, of
- 18 course.
- 19 Q. Did any employee ever benefit from the
- 20 Charter Oak Trust?
- 21 A. Employee for whom?
- Q. Well, you testified that the Charter
- 23 Oak Trust was a plan to benefit employees.
- 24 Correct?
- 25 A. Right.

[Page 20]

## 1 Goldman 7/26/13

- 2 Q. And are you aware of any employee that
- 3 ever benefited from the Charter Oak Trust?
- A. No, I don't know the answer to that.
- 5 I didn't see any. I didn't make an inquiry into
- 6 that, no.
- 7 Q. Well, in your review of all of the
- 8 lengthy list of documents, was there anything
- 9 that you reviewed or in any conversations you've
- 10 ever had prior to today that's indicated to you
- 11 that any employee ever benefited from the Charter
- 12 Oak Trust?
- 13 A. I didn't see any.
- 14 O. You're not aware of any benefit that
- 15 any employee ever received from the Charter Oak
- 16 Trust. Correct?
- 17 A. I'm not aware, no.
- 18 O. Who did benefit from the Charter Oak
- 19 Trust?
- 20 A. You mean in terms of death benefit?
- 21 Q. Yes.
- 22 A. I have no idea.
- Q. Well, you're aware that an insured by
- 24 the name of Sash Spencer died. Correct?
- 25 A. Yes.

[Page 21] Goldman 7/26/13 1 And that two policies insured his life 2 Q. that were held by the trust. 3 Correct? Α. Yes. And that the death benefit on those Q. two life insurance policies totalled \$30 million. Correct? Α. Yes. And that Lincoln Life Insurance Q. 10 Company, the carrier who issued those policies, 11 paid the \$30 million to the Charter Oak Trust. 12 13 Correct? 14 Α. Yes. Now, where -- where is the \$30 million Q. 15 16 today? The only response I had to that is in 17 the documents subpoena, we prepared a complete 18 analysis and traced the \$30 million from Charter 19 Oak into Grist Mill Capital and then from Grist Mill Capital into different entities. So Grist Mill Capital benefited from 22 Q. the Charter Oak Trust. 23 Correct? 24

Well, they received the proceeds from

Α.

25

[Page 22]

- Goldman 7/26/13 1
- 2 the policy.
- 3 Q. Okay. Back to the 2009 tax returns
- filed on behalf of the Charter Oak Trust.
- 5 Who was indicated as the trustee?
- A. Nova Group. 6
- 7 Q. And who signed the return on behalf of
- Nova Group, Inc.? 8
- 9 A. Wayne Bursey.
- Q. And what position did Mr. Bursey hold 10
- at Nova Group, Inc. in 2009? 11
- 12 A. President.
- Q. Now, did the Charter Oak Trust file 13
- any tax returns for 2010? 14
- A. I don't recall. 15
- Q. Who was the trustee of the Charter Oak 16
- Trust in 2010? 17
- 18 A. Nova Group, Inc. was still the
- trustee, I believe. 19
- And who were the officers of Nova 20
- Group, Inc. in 2010? 21
- 22 I don't believe there were any
- officers at that point. I think they all 23
- 24 resigned.
- Q. Well, in 2010, who was running the 25

[Page 137]

1 Goldman 7/26/13

- 2 continued to update whenever it needed updating
- 3 and it was started -- it was created initially --
- 4 when I say "created," they started it when
- 5 Ridgewood was still financing.
- 6 So I think in an effort to be
- 7 complete, they did not eliminate the column that
- 8 was Ridgewood's column. So even though Ridgewood
- 9 was out of the picture, this document would have
- 10 had to have been amended significantly in terms
- 11 of deleting that column showing Ridgewood. So
- 12 this is a complete document in terms of what was
- 13 going on while Ridgewood was still funding and
- 14 going forward from there.
- 15 Q. Okay. Well, if you look at page 10,
- 16 there's a grand total of \$60 million plus that's
- 17 indicated owed to Grist Mill Capital from Charter
- 18 Oak Trust.
- 19 Right?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. Now, that 60 million-dollar number
- 22 includes the \$33 million that's already been
- 23 satisfied to Ridgewood.
- 24 Correct?
- 25 A. Yes.

[Page 138]

1 Goldman 7/26/13

- 2 Q. So the 60 million-dollar number is
- 3 inaccurate. Right?
- A. Well, it's not accurate as of the date
- 5 of this -- as of the date that this document was
- 6 generated, that's correct.
- 7 Q. And still focusing on page 10 of this
- 8 document, there's an entry Avon Insurance Trust
- 9 and opposite that is a number \$3,647,964.01.
- 10 Do you see that?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. What does that number represent?
- 13 A. Apparently, monies that were advanced
- 14 for -- paid on Avon Insurance Trust policies.
- 15 Q. Monies advanced by who to the Avon
- 16 Insurance Trust?
- 17 A. Well, it would have been Grist Mill
- 18 Capital.
- 19 Q. Okay. And why do you say monies
- 20 advanced by Grist Mill Capital. Where is that
- 21 shown on the document?
- 22 A. It's not.
- Q. So 3.647 million dollar amount, as I
- 24 understand your testimony, that's an amount that
- 25 the Avon Insurance Trust, may owe to Grist Mill

[Page 139] Goldman 7/26/13 1 Capital. 2 Correct? 3 Α. Yes. So why is it listed here on this 5 Q. document that relates to the Charter Oak Trust? I think this document -- that part of 7 this document is a summary of the total amount of monies that is owed Grist Mill Capital, not just Charter Oak Trust, even though it's titled that. 10 11 Ο. Okay. I think this is just a summary that 12 they did, because the first line, the subtotal 13 shows the total amount between Grist Mill and --14 I'm sorry -- Grist Mill and Ridgewood, and then 15 the next line clearly is not part of this. 16 So I think that -- and the collateral 17 that Grist Mill put up for I don't know what, 18 interest and whatever else. So I think this 19 lower section is just a summary as to show the 20 total amount that is owed Grist Mill from not 21 only Ridgewood and Grist Mill Capital, but 22 Avon -- I mean, from Charter Oak, but just Avon, 23 too, and whatever other kind of obligations 24 25 arose.

[Page 140] Goldman 7/26/13 1 2 But that the lower summary that we're Q. 3 looking at that starts with subtotal and ends 4 with grand total --5 Α. Yes. 6 -- those amounts are all outdated. 7 Correct? 8 Because you've testified that 9 Ridgewood was paid off and 33 million of the 10 subtotal amount reflected here as 47 million has 11 already been paid. 12 Correct? 13 Α. Yes. 14 So the 60 million grand total number, 15 that's not an amount that's currently owed to 16 Grist Mill Capital. 17 Correct? 18 Α. Yes, unless there was some other 19 change, that's correct. 20 And would it be fair to say that that 21 number -- well, strike it. 22 What is -- tell me, the entry right 23 above grand total, interest, CAPLTD, I think 24 that's short for "capitalized." 25 Am I correct?

[Page 141] Goldman 7/26/13 1 2 Α. Yes. And the amount opposite that entry is 3 7,939,519.74. What does that number represent? 5 I believe that's interest that has not Α. been -- not been paid, obviously, because of the 7 grand total but it -- I don't know what they mean 8 by "capitalized." 9 I think that they might not -- it 10 might be a bookkeeping entry for them, in terms 11 of the way they keep their books. So I'm not 12 certain why it's capitalized interest. 13 Well, do you know where the number 14 0. came from --15 Α. No. 16 -- how it was calculated? Ο. 17 18 Α. No. Do you know whether it relates to the 19 Q. Avon Insurance Trust? 20 I do not know. Α. 21 Do you know if it relates to the 22 Ridgewood financing that was done? 23 I do not know. Α. 24 The entry "collateral, 1.1 million," 25 Q.

[Page 142] 1 Goldman 7/26/13 2 do you see that? 3 Α. Yes. Do you know what that relates to? Q. 5 Α. No. That number looks familiar to me, but I just can't -- I don't remember. 7 Interest paid of 610,000, do you see Q. 8 that? 9 Α. Yes. 10 Q. I've rounded the number. Do you know what that relates to? 11 12 Α. No. 13 Q. Does that relate to Ridgewood? 14 A. I don't know. 15 Does it relate to the Avon Insurance Q. 16 Trust? 17 I don't know. Α. 18 Do you know who the current owner of Q. 19 the Amsterdam policy is? 20 Α. No. 21 Do you know why the Amsterdam policy Q. 22 is shown on this chart? 23 I think because this is a chart in progress where they continue to maintain an 24 accounting, and I don't mean a debit and credit 25

[Page 143]

- 1 Goldman 7/26/13
- 2 accounting, but an accounting of what policies
- 3 are in existence and the payment of the premiums.
- Q. What is the relationship of the
- 5 Amsterdam Life Insurance policy to the Charter
- 6 Oak Trust?
- A. I don't know.
- 8 Q. So you don't know whether the Charter
- 9 Oak Trust currently is the owner of the Amsterdam
- 10 policy?
- 11 A. I do not.
- 12 Q. On page 2 of the exhibit, there's an
- 13 entry, Bolton.
- 14 Do you know if that policy is
- 15 currently owned by the Charter Oak Trust?
- 16 A. I don't.
- Q. And, again, you'll notice that all of
- 18 the payments on the Bolton policy have taken
- 19 place after December 17, 2009.
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know where Grist Mill Capital,
- 22 this out of business entity is getting the money
- 23 to make those premium payments?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 Q. Who owns the Clinard policy?

[Page 144] Goldman 7/26/13 1 I don't know. 2 Α. Are any of the policies set forth on 3 Q. Exhibit 2 owned by the Charter Oak Trust today? 4 I'm not certain. 5 Α. Who would know? Q. Matt Westcott might know or Amanda Α. 7 might know. I don't know. I didn't ask them. 8 Do you know if they know what policies Q. are owned by the Charter Oak Trust? 10 No. 11 Α. Does Exhibit 2 reflect any payments 12 that were received by Grist Mill Capital upon 13 14 surrender of any policies? 15 I'm not sure I understand. Q. Okay. Let me ask that a little 16 differently. 17 MS. COLBATH: Let me mark an exhibit. 18 I'm going to mark three exhibits, so 19 the first exhibit we'll mark as Goldman 20 Exhibit 8. It is a document headed 21 "Memorandum of Law in Support of Motion to 22 Dismiss" in an action brought by the Penn 23 Mutual Life Insurance Company against Wayne 24 Bursey as trustee of the Charter Oak Trust, 25

[Page 244]

Goldman 7/26/13 1 I have no idea. I don't know. told me where you got it, but I don't know who 3 worked on it. Okay. If you look in the chart next 5 Q. to the -- opposite Spencer --6 On Exhibit 14? 7 Α. Well, we can look at the one --Q. 8 I have Spencer open now. 9 Α. I'd rather have you look at it on your Q. 10 information subpoena response. 11 A. Okay. 12 Do you have that? 13 Q. Α. 14 Yes. Am I correct that Grist Mill Capital 15 Q. didn't advance even a penny on the Spencer 16 17 policies? 18 Α. According to this, they did not. MS. COLBATH: That's all I have. 19 Thank you. 20 MR. KLEIMAN: Thank you. 21 Just one question just to clarify 22 something which he had mentioned before. 23 MS. COLBATH: Sure. 24

EXAMINATION BY MR. KLEIMAN:

25